

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING TO GOD FOR THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE HONORABLE JAMES C. WRIGHT, JR., 12TH DISTRICT OF TEXAS, SPEAKER OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, the Honorable James Claude Wright, former Speaker of the House of Representatives, died on May 6, 2015. On that day, I issued the following statement:

The whole House mourns the passing of Speaker Jim Wright of the state of Texas. We remember Speaker Wright today for his lifelong commitment to public service, from flying combat missions over the South Pacific to fighting for Fort Worth on the House floor. Speaker Wright understood as well as anyone this institution's closeness to the people, calling the House 'the raw essence of the nation.' It is in this spirit that we send our deepest condolences to his family and community.

The House took several steps to honor the former Speaker. The Speaker's chair on the rostrum was draped in black—the same mark of respect first made upon the death of Michael Kerr of Indiana, Speaker of the House in the 44th Congress and most recently for Thomas Foley. The Speaker's gavel rested on the rostrum during this period. Outside the House Chamber, Speaker Wright's official portrait in the Speaker's lobby was draped in black. A book of condolences was made available for the remembrances of friends and colleagues. On May 12, 2015, the House adopted House Resolution 245, expressing the condolences of the House upon his death, and the House adjourned on that day as a further mark of respect to his memory. A funeral was held on May 11, 2015, at First United Methodist Church in Fort Worth, Texas. The following is a transcript of those proceedings:

A SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING TO GOD FOR THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JAMES CLAUDE WRIGHT, JR., DECEMBER 22, 1922–MAY 6, 2015
Prelude—(Ms. Peggy Graff, organist)
Processional—"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

Call to worship
(The Reverend Dr. Tim Bruster, First United Methodist Church, Fort Worth, Texas)

Reverend Bruster: Please be seated.

Hear these words of Jesus: I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everybody who lives and believes in me will never die.

Christ said: I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. Do not be afraid. I am the first and the last and the living one. I was dead, and now I am alive, forever and ever.

Friends, we have gathered here to praise God and to draw comfort from our faith and to give thanks as we celebrate the life of Jim Wright.

We come together in grief, of course, acknowledging our human loss. But we also come together in gratitude, acknowledging and giving thanks for his life and his legacy and for everything in his life that was a reflection of the love and the grace of God.

May God grant us grace in this time that in pain we may find comfort, in sorrow we may find joy, and in death, resurrection. Let's pray.

Our gracious and loving God, we bow in awe of Your greatness and Your love. You have spoken words of life to us in so many ways. You've given form and beauty to our world, and all of creation sings Your praise.

You have given us one another to love and receive love, a reflection of Your gracious love for us. And You have spoken to us in the words of Scripture and in Jesus, the Word made flesh, the Author of life.

As You speak to us now, in this service of worship, help us once again to hear Your words of life as we celebrate the life and legacy of Your servant, Jim.

In Jesus' name.

Amen.

I invite you now to turn in your worship guide to the words of the 23rd Psalm as we say them together:

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

"He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters.

"He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.

"Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

The words of Psalm 46:

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the Earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

"There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns. The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; He utters His voice, the Earth melts. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

"Come, behold the works of the Lord; see what desolations He has brought on the Earth. He makes wars cease to the end of the Earth; He breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; He burns the shields with fire. 'Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations; I am exalted in the Earth.' The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge."

The words of the prophet Micah:

"With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old. Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

"He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

God speaks to us in the reading of Scripture.

Solo—"Let There Be Peace on Earth" performed by Mr. Christopher Auchter.

(The Honorable Martin Frost, United States House of Representatives, 24th District of Texas, 1979–2005)

Mr. Frost: Well, in the words of President John F. Kennedy about Jim Wright:

No city in America was better represented in Congress than Fort Worth.

I'm here today to speak on behalf of the scores of people—many of whom, Texans—that Jim Wright helped along the way with their careers. He was our mentor, our colleague, and our friend. And we were better public servants because of Jim Wright, and many of those Members, past and present, Democrat and Republican, are here with us today to honor Jim.

In a minute, I'm going to speak about what Jim did for my career, but it really speaks volumes for what he did for a lot of others, too.

Jim Wright was an extraordinary leader both for the people of Fort Worth and for our Nation. He always remembered the people who sent him to Washington and worked tirelessly to make our country even better every day he was in office. Few Congressmen in recent times have had a greater impact than our friend Jim Wright.

I met Jim Wright 57 years ago, in 1958, when he was a young Congressman beginning his second term and I was a 16-year-old. Jim was the guest speaker at the Temple Beth-El youth group in the basement of the old synagogue building on West Broadway, near downtown. I had never met a national politician before, and he made a deep impression on me that day. I remember to this day some of what he said, and more of that a little bit later.

Seven years later, in 1965, I showed up in Washington as a young reporter covering Congress for a magazine, and the first thing I did was to go see my hometown Congressman, Jim Wright. Jim and his chief of staff, Marshall Lynam, were very helpful to this young reporter, suggesting who I should get to know on congressional committee staffs. Three years later, in the summer of 1968, Jim helped me get a job on Hubert Humphrey's national Presidential campaign staff while I was a student at Georgetown Law School.

The last two people I saw before I headed back to Texas following graduation in 1970 were Jim and Marshall. I told them that I hoped to come back to D.C. some day as a Congressman—in a neighboring district. I had no intention of ever running against Jim Wright.

Fast forward to 1976 when I was north Texas coordinator of the Carter-Mondale Presidential campaign. The Carter campaign wanted to come to Texas the weekend before the general election when carrying Texas was still in doubt. They wanted to only stop in Dallas. As a Fort Worth boy, I told them they also had to come to Cowtown and that I knew that local Congressman Jim Wright would put on one hell of a show for them, and that's exactly what Jim did. He filled the downtown convention center with more than 10,000 people early in the afternoon that

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Sunday. It made great television, and Carter became the last Democratic Presidential candidate to carry Texas.

Shortly after that election, Jim Wright became House majority leader by one vote in a hotly contested secret ballot election. He certainly knew how to count. Two years later, I was elected to Congress from the 24th District, which, in fact, adjoined the 12th District that Jim represented. Jim went to Speaker Tip O'Neill and made sure I was named to the powerful House Rules Committee, an appointment that almost never went to a freshman Member.

From that day on, Jim Wright and I became both colleagues and friends. He was my mentor during the 11 years we served together, and I learned an enormous amount just watching him in action. And when I inherited the Black community in southeast Fort Worth following the 1991 redistricting, I only used one picture in my mailing: a photo of Jim Wright and me. There wasn't anything else the voters in that part of my district needed to know.

They continued to be my base for the remainder of my 26 years in Congress, and just to make sure people in Fort Worth knew that I had strong ties to Fort Worth, even though I now lived in Dallas, he used to tell anyone who would listen that I went to high school in his district in Fort Worth's Paschal, and he went to high school in my district in Dallas' Adamson.

When Jim taught a course at TCU on Congress for 20 years after leaving the Congress, I was proud to be a guest lecturer for him every single year. The last time I saw Jim was in the spring of 2014, when I was working on a book about Congress. We visited for about an hour in his office at TCU. His body was frail, but his mind was as sharp as ever.

I learned how to be an effective Congressman by observing Jim as a colleague and as a junior partner on a variety of matters that helped Fort Worth. He never forgot the people who sent him to Washington. He was a stalwart in his work on behalf of defense workers at what is now Lockheed Martin, which was General Dynamics, and Bell Helicopter in Fort Worth.

He played a significant role in the decision by American Airlines to move its corporate headquarters from New York to the Metroplex, and he was a strong supporter of DFW airport, the jobs magnet for this part of the State.

We worked together—and by the way, he did the heavy lifting—to convince the railroad to make its right-of-way available for the Trinity River Express connecting Fort Worth and Dallas. No request from anyone in Tarrant County was too small to win Jim's help.

Also, Jim's role in promoting the careers of promising African Americans from Fort Worth was of great significance. He brought Lorraine Miller, a young woman from the southeast side of Fort Worth, to Washington to work on his staff. Years later, she became the first African American to serve as Clerk of the U.S. House and recently served as interim national president of the NAACP. And just a few years ago, Jim played a key role in the election of Mark Veasey, who became the first Black Congressman from Fort Worth.

One of Jim's greatest strengths was molding a disparate group of Democrats into an effective majority when he became Speaker. During his first year as Speaker in 1987—and Tony and Steny, you will remember this—Congress passed all 13 appropriation bills before the start of the new fiscal year on October 1, something that is almost never done today.

I remember his response to a question from the audience at that speech at Temple Beth-

El in 1958. He was asked what a Congressman does when he feels one way about an issue and his district feels the other way. He responded that the job of a Congressman was to reflect the views of his district as often as he could. He then added that he reserved a small percentage of votes, perhaps 10 percent, to vote against the majority of his district if he felt something was vital in the national interest. And he then added that it was his responsibility to go back to his constituents to explain his vote and hopefully convince them that he was right and they were wrong. He added that if a Congressman couldn't successfully do that, he wouldn't be reelected, and that was as it should be.

He did a very good job following his own advice. I did the same and found that he was exactly correct.

Fort Worth is a great city today because of Jim Wright. We all owe him an enormous debt of gratitude. We will never see his like again.

(The Honorable Bill Alexander, United States House of Representatives, First District of Arkansas, 1969–1993)

Mr. Alexander: Jimmy and Ginger, Kerry, Lisa, and all the Wright family, I feel that we are kin.

And to all of his friends who are here today, I join you in tribute to one of my dearest friends.

I kept up with Jim through the years, even after he left Washington and returned to Texas; and following his recovery from surgery, I gave him a call one day, and he invited me to come to Fort Worth. So my son and I—Alex, who is here—with his sister Ashley, who came to TCU at a later time, boarded our plane and came to DFW. At those days, Jim was driving, and so he met us at the airport. I'd never been outside of DFW before, so I didn't know what to expect.

And so as we left the terminal, I noticed all of the concrete infrastructure that supports the airport: the entrance ramps, the exit ramps, the overhead bridges, the long ride to the interstate. I never saw so much concrete in all my life. So I turned to Jim, who at one time, as most of you know, was chairman of the Public Works Committee, and I said to him, "Jim, how much money did the Public Works Committee spend on this airport?" And he looked at me and rolled his brow and lifted his big bushy eyebrows and he said to me, "Not a penny more than the law allowed."

Jim was probably one of the most successful chairmen in Congress; and with that success, people encouraged him, and he ran for majority leader. As all of you probably followed in the news, it was a very contentious race, and on the day of the vote, I was appointed to be a judge. And so after the votes were cast, I adjourned with the other members of the election group and counted the votes. We counted them twice, and Jim won by one vote.

I got up from the chair in the Speaker's lounge—the Speaker's lobby, we call it—rushed through the door to the House Chamber, and Jim was sitting on the second row on the Democratic side in the Hall of the House. I rushed up to him and I said, "Jim, you won." He was surprised because no one knew the outcome of that election. He looked at me, and he said, "Are you sure?" And I said, "Jim, I counted the votes, and if you hadn't won, Phil Burton said he would send me to Alaska."

Following in the footsteps of Sam Rayburn and Lyndon Johnson, Jim asserted leadership in Congress at a time of confusion in the Senate and the White House, demonstrating a unique ability to command our Nation's political resources to get things done. And this went across the aisle to the Republicans and even down Pennsylvania Avenue to the

White House, which is a million miles away if you serve in Congress sometimes.

Jim Wright had fought in World War II to defend the values of the Greatest Generation, as Tom Brokaw describes this generation, a generation of men and women united in common purposes of family, country, duty, honor, courage, and service. During World War II, he flew many combat missions. I haven't really been able to discern exactly how many yet because there's such a debate over it. Maybe somebody will tell me before I go back to Washington. And he served as a bombardier and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his bravery.

Jim believed that government should serve the people as well as the economic interests, which also must be represented, and provide Federal assistance to communities and States like Arkansas, where I'm from. It's in need of capital development in order to provide infrastructure to try to attract industry and jobs for our people. That was, in his view, providing building blocks for the foundation of the economic development that benefits all of us. All you've got to do is look around in Texas a little bit to find out if it works.

The criticism of Speaker Wright, which is in the news, instead of all of the accomplishments that we know he achieved, his strong leadership came from a changing Congress. Some of my former colleagues from Congress are here today, and they know what I'm talking about.

Beginning with the 1968 election, which was my first election to Congress, the ideals and values of the Greatest Generation began to evolve. A Congress run by Southern Democrats, who chaired mostly the important committees in the Congress, was gradually replaced by a younger generation of Congressmen and Senators, many of them in the other party. And when he left Congress, even his political enemies often remarked that, had he stayed in Congress, he would have been the greatest Speaker since Henry Clay.

His time as Speaker laid down historic markers. He was the last great figure in Congress to keep alive the idea of development—that came from the New Deal—that would help our economy.

After him came what we call Reaganomics and the tidal wave of polarization of our two political parties and the continuing mindless cannibalism which we can still see evident today between the parties and even in the parties in Congress.

Criticism of Speaker Wright's forceful leadership came from Republicans and Democrats alike; although, at the time he stepped down, the principal antagonists came from within our own party. I was there, and I know who they are.

What followed was a profound change in the power structure in Congress, shifting away from the power and authority lodged in a handful of key Southern committee chairmen to a dispersion of power among proliferating committees and subcommittees, encouraging intensifying rivalries and even political fratricides throughout the House. His departure marked the end of an era when Southern Democrats dominated in both the House and the Senate, along with a gradual evolution of the Congress toward social issues.

It marked the transition from Southern leadership of Congress to a growing concentration of power of the Democratic Party in our Nation's biggest cities, many of them in the North, opening a widening rift between our Nation's small towns and rural areas and the political interests of the inner cities. The way was opened for lobbyists to shift attention away from schools and roads and bridges and water systems that helped

our people to special interests of Wall Street banks and a commercial agenda.

A fluent speaker of Spanish, he took the initiative to intervene in the political crisis in Nicaragua and crafted peace talks that laid the foundation for elections. When I assisted him in this so-called “junket,” in his endeavor I found that what we tried to do generated much consternation among President Reagan’s White House staff. Later, another great Texan, James Baker, observed that what Jim Wright did with his intervention in Nicaragua turned the corner for that nation and helped the U.S. and Nicaragua to come to better terms with one another.

Jim Wright was not only a master of the political structure and the rules in Congress, he also was an author, a professor. He lectured at Texas Christian University with eagerness to inspire and guide our Nation’s youth.

In the tradition of Sam Houston and Sam Rayburn, Jim Wright was a giant. I was his chief deputy whip in the Congress, the worst job in the House of Representatives, but it was worth all the knocks and the cuts and the bruises and the criticism that I endured to fight for the values established by the Greatest Generation until the ideals were changed by a new breed of voter who believes that Washington is not a solution, rather, Washington is the problem.

He was my dear friend, and I stood with him in every fight for the values that won World War II and provided the building blocks and foundation for the greatest economy on Earth.

God bless Jim Wright.

(Mr. Paul Driskell, Special Assistant, Majority Leader James C. Wright, Jr.)

Mr. Driskell: Martin, Bill, Betsy, Mike, Kenneth, Mr. Leader, Steny Hoyer—the one man in this sanctuary today who knows the full weight and measure and the responsibilities of the job this prince of peace executed so beautifully for so many years. Dear Steny, thank you for your presence today. How very, very special, how honored he would be, how much he would love this congregation today. This is a delegation of community builders.

Mr. Wright loved Sam Rayburn dearly, and he often quoted him; and of course many people wondered why Mr. Rayburn went back to Bonham, Texas, after announcing he was going to leave the House, and his answer was simple:

Bonham, Texas: the people there know when you’re sick, and they care when you die.

You have validated Jim Wright’s recitation of that quote, all of you today, by honoring him in coming here. You knew he was ill, and you cared that he died. Oh, how he would celebrate you. Oh, how he must be enjoying this. He loved people of accomplishment. He loved people who contributed and built.

Mr. Rayburn used to always say: A jackass can kick a barn down; it takes a carpenter to build one. It’s no accident that our Lord was fathered by a carpenter—and parented by a carpenter in his early years.

I’d like to give you a sense of Speaker Wright, Jim Wright, and my friend. It may be very, very unique. And as I have thought about him so much and as I visited him in those final days, things came to me that I would have never imagined. He was, in fact, the first gifted multitasker. Now, if you know anything about Jim, he despised anything to do with technology, but he was a multitasker. Let me explain what I mean.

February 7, 1985, 11 o’clock in the morning, after about 30 days, some of the people in this room—Tony, John—had been working diligently because Mr. O’Neill had told us privately he was going to retire. So we were

trying to collect the requisite number of votes for him to become Speaker of the House 2 years out.

February 7, 1985, 11 o’clock in the morning, a national press conference was held in the office that Steny Hoyer’s offices are in today. He met the national press. He was surrounded by his colleagues. He was surrounded by people who loved him and wished well for him, and he made the announcement that he had achieved the requisite number of votes to capture his dream, to be Speaker of the House. He put a peace, if you will, in a body that’s not given to peace easily about the next years and how things would follow.

Fifteen minutes later, he grabbed me by the arm and escorted me and my wife, Donna, up the back stairs with 31 other people to the House Chaplain’s office where Chaplain Ford married us at Henry Clay’s desk, the great compromiser. And then, he walked back downstairs with us. We had a reception in the office. He pulled Donna and me aside and he said, “I only have two things to tell you two: Paul, always hold her hand, and never go to bed mad.”

Mr. Speaker, sometimes you set the bar too high. I have removed pillows from my bed so as not to elevate the temptation for Donna to smother me.

There are so many things privately that I loved about him and that we shared. He had a passionate love for boxing. He knew boxing. He knew boxing like Nat Fleischer, the famous author who recorded almost everything of significance about American heavyweight boxing. We went to a fight. We went to Golden Gloves. We went to the Olympic trials. We went to tons of professional fights. It was like going to that fight with Nat Fleischer, and he would be sitting there and he would be reciting to you the ring scores of the Firpo-Dempsey fight. He knew—every—every hobby and interest he had, he wanted to know everything there was to know about it. If you ever saw the roses that he cultivated, you’d understand that in spades. He was a gifted horticulturist. He was a great teacher.

Kay, you and I sat just about where Steny was sitting 2 years ago, 2½ years ago, and you told me how he taught you and Ginger, Jenny and Lisa about God. In fact, he used a wagon wheel and said that was the universe and God was, indeed, the hub; and the spokes represented the people, and, of course, the rim, where all the damage and impact takes place, was the furthest from God. And he admonished you that it was your job, it was your responsibility, it was a testament of your faith to move closer down those spokes because you would be closer to more people, and as you were closer to more people, you’d be closer to God. What a gift.

I’ve often wondered, and I think everyone in this sanctuary today wonders, why God lets us see certain things at certain times. It seems rather odd. Last week, just the day before his passing and only a few days after my last visit with him, there was a documentary on about George Foreman. I happened to turn it on the other night. George Foreman, the famous heavyweight, struck fear and terror in everyone’s heart—undefeated, knocked poor Joe Frazier down eight times. And the interviewer asked him a question. He said, “Who was the greatest champion of all time in your estimation?” And George Foreman didn’t hesitate. He said, “Muhammad Ali.” That stunned the interviewer.

Muhammad Ali had defeated George Foreman in Zaire, Africa, and usually when a boxer loses to another one, it was a lucky punch or you’re just a little better that night, not the greatest champion that ever lived. He didn’t hesitate. He said, “Muhammad Ali.”

The interviewer said, “Why? Why do you choose him?” He said, “Well, if you saw the

fight in the eighth round, he hit me twice in the face.” And if any of you remember or happened to have seen it, George Foreman began to cartwheel. He began to turn and fall to the floor. And as he was falling, Muhammad Ali, as all boxers are trained all their life to do, cocked his arm to hit him with what is known as the “killing punch.”

And George Foreman said, “I looked up out of my left eye, just partially conscious, knowing I was going to the floor, and he never threw that punch. So for me, he’s not the greatest champion that ever lived for the punches he threw; it’s for what he didn’t do. It’s the punch he didn’t throw.”

And the very people who besmirched and impugned this prince of peace at the end of his public career, when they fell on hard times and they fell by the sword they had so recklessly wielded, not once in private—and certainly never in public—did Jim Wright throw that punch. He could not retaliate. He didn’t just talk Christian forgiveness; he lived it. His higher calling at that time was to find a way to inspire students at TCU to engage in public service and to think about the possibilities of what they could build, like the beautiful people in this room today. He didn’t throw that punch.

I was 15 years old, standing in front of a black-and-white TV, and I watched Robert Kennedy say, “When he shall die, take him and cut him out into stars, and he shall make the face of Heaven so fine that all the world will be in love with night and pay no worship to the garish Sun.”

I didn’t know at 15 just what that meant. At 65, I marvel how Bobby Kennedy could have mustered the strength and the insight to say that about the brother he loved, in some ways his best friend, and, oh, by the way, in passing, the President of the United States.

I understood because of this church and because of my association with him that all of us have a spark of divinity. We are all made in God’s image, and that spark is there, but what I didn’t understand was that there are a special few who possess a flame, a torch. It’s bigger. It’s more committed. It’s something we can appreciate. It’s not necessarily something we readily understand.

It’s not by accident that there’s an eternal flame that burns at John Kennedy’s grave and why, for all the accomplishments: the Peace Corps, the space program, all of those things—no. That’s part of it. That’s why millions go there to pay respects. The part of it is that during the most sensitive time in our Nation’s history, when we were the closest to engaging in a nuclear holocaust, when every adviser that that President had was admonishing him to take advantage of the tactical and strategic position we occupied for those precious few days and strike Cuba with nuclear weapons, he didn’t throw that punch. And we’re all breathing good air and loving our friends and conducting our lives because of that divine torch.

The thing I think I will miss most is a private passion that Jim had and I shared. He loved movies. The singular thing that we really appreciated together was we happened to think that Robert Duvall was the greatest American actor that’s ever lived.

Jim’s favorite movie was “Tender Mercies,” and my favorite film was “The Natural.” And in “The Natural,” there’s a scene—of course, all the ladies in here know Robert Redford was the natural. He was Roy Hobbs, the gifted baseball player. Robert Duvall was the cynical sportswriter; Wilford Brimley was the crusty old coach.

And there’s that beautiful soliloquy where the coach walks in and he says—I mean, pardon me, Robert Duvall walks in and says to the coach, “Coach, who is this Roy Hobbs?” And the coach turns on his heels and says, “I

don't know who Roy Hobbs is. I just know he's the best there is and the best there ever will be."

Jim Wright, you are the natural.

There probably has never been a man in American history who I can recall that so eloquently used the English language. He helped those of us who only have sparks appreciate the flame with his application of our language.

And it seems a shame that I can't find words in my language to encompass all that he was, and yet he will always be. Only in Spanish: Vaya con Dios—go and be with God. Light of our land. Vaya con Dios, friend of my life.

Congregational Hymn—"This Is My Song"

Reverend Bruster: I invite you to hear now the words of the Apostle Paul from the first letter to the Corinthians, Chapter 13:

"If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

"Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

"Love never ends."

And Paul ends that chapter with the words:

"And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love."

The words of Jesus in the Gospel of Luke, a sermon on the plain:

"But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat, do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

"If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for He is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."

Jim had a wonderful, quick wit as we all know. His responses to glowing introductions illustrated that point. Two years ago, when Cissy Day was introducing him to a Sunday school class where he was about to speak, she told a story at the end of her introduction of something that he had done that was very kind and a note that he had written to her that was a kind note that she treasured. When he stood up then to speak, he looked over at her and he said, "Uh, I had forgotten how nice I used to be."

After a glowing introduction at another event, he said, "An event of this dimension is just terribly hard on one's humility. Try as I might to look and sound humble, I just can't quite pull it off."

And then he quoted Jesus: "Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in Heaven."

And he said, "You know, when I read that, I realized he doesn't say, 'Let your light so shine so that others may see your good works and think what a great guy.'" And then he went on to say, "The purpose of good works is not to get bragged on." But then he said this: "But if I'm honest with you, I guess I'm going to have to let you in on a little personal confession. Being bragged on, I like it," he said. "I eat it up."

And on another occasion, he said after an introduction, "Undeserved as though an introduction like that is, indeed I want you to know that I liked it. I liked every word of it."

And then he said, "There are two kinds of people who appreciate flattery: men and women."

So since Jim made that confession, I guess it's okay that we tell of his good works and that we laud him. And I hope that he would appreciate that we do it not just pointing at Jim, but pointing at the source of all of that for Jim; pointing not just to Jim, but beyond to the legacy that he received from other people, and beyond Jim to his faith and his commitment to Christ that guided his life.

He leaves a great legacy, and our words hold up those great attributes not to point just to Jim, but to also point to his faith and commitment and the One in whom he had faith and the One that he sought to follow, and also to see Jim's life as an example to all of us.

I want to think about that with you for just a few minutes. Jim was an encourager. As he sought to be a follower of Christ and as he put that into practice in his life, he knew the importance of encouragement. He was an encourager.

In the book of Acts, we meet a man named Joseph. He was from Cyprus. But we don't know him as Joseph. We almost never hear that. After his first introduction in the book of Acts, he's known by his nickname, and his nickname was Barnabas. The disciples, the apostles, nicknamed him Barnabas because Barnabas means "son of encouragement." He was an encourager. Imagine having your nickname mean one who encourages. We could call Jim that, a Barnabas, because he was. He was a son of encouragement.

How many of us in this room, I wonder, have, in our possession, notes of encouragement from Jim Wright? I would guess a lot of us. Those notes arrived at a time of discouragement, perhaps, or a time of grief or a time of uncertainty or a time of failing confidence or a time of waning courage. A note of encouragement arrived at just the right time.

What is the value of those notes? I was thinking about that and thought, you know, the law of supply and demand would say those notes are not worth anything at all; there are too many of them on the market. But the value of those notes goes far beyond that. They're valued in a different way. One person told me that she had such a note in a plastic sleeve and carried it with her for a long time.

What an encourager, not just the notes, but the right words spoken at the right moment.

We give thanks to God for Jim because Jim was a peacemaker, and we have heard our speakers talk eloquently about his peace-making efforts. He often quoted Jesus, again, from the Sermon on the Mount: Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

And he was a peacemaker. He was a man of strong convictions but yet able to see and to respect the perspective of another and to bring people together in ways that make for peace. He was, as a peacemaker, a child of God, as Jesus said.

Now, peacemaking extended beyond what you may know about to his role as a parent.

His daughters, Ginger and Kay, were fighting one time as sisters do, and Jim intervened as the peacemaker. And he made each one of them go to her room and write an essay, entitled, "Why I Love My Sister." And he held on to those essays for 30 years, and then he gave them back to the girls so they could read them.

Kay wrote this: "Well, I suppose she's nice. Her friends seem to like her."

Ginger wrote: "Well, she seems to like my clothes because she wears them all the time."

He closed the door after reading those essays and guffawed, as you can imagine.

Ginger's comment, when she was telling me about it, was, "And he thought the Sandinistas and Contras were tough."

Jim was a servant leader; we know that. His accomplishments were many. In serving his beloved Weatherford and his beloved Fort Worth and his beloved Nation, he was a servant leader. Whether that was as a father, a grandfather, a great-grandfather, a soldier, a State legislator, a Scout master, a golden gloves boxing coach, a Sunday school teacher, a church leader, a mayor, a Congressman, a majority leader, a Speaker of the House, a teacher, or a friend, he was a servant leader—again, following the words of Jesus that we are to be servants of one another if we're ever to be called great.

His life was committed to compassion and justice. I read those wonderful words from Micah a moment ago. Micah was writing to a nation, to his people, who had lost their way, who had lost sight of that which was most important. They had the right words. They had the right rituals. But Micah wrote that that was all empty and reminded them of what was most important that they should have known already.

He said, "What has he told you, O mortal, but what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God."

On so many occasions, I saw Jim share his faith; I saw Jim share his values, heard him speak in this pulpit. A number of years ago—I think it was in 2006—my wife, Susan, who was working at William James Middle School as academic coordinator, shared that with Jim, and he said, "I used to go to William James Middle School." And she invited him then to come and speak to the students, and she had Jim Wright Day, and he spent most of the day at the school. And he talked with those students, and he had a reception in the library where he shared with them.

There was a big assembly in the auditorium, and it's one of those old classic schools with a big auditorium, a balcony in the back, and it was packed with middle school kids. And I couldn't believe my eyes and my ears when he spoke to them. You could hear a pin drop. He was a master.

And he shared with those kids the story of the Good Samaritan. I remember how he started into that. He said, "There are a lot of different beliefs." He said, "There is a man who lived a long time ago. His name was Jesus. He was a very good man, and a lot of different people believed a lot of different things about him. But he told some stories that taught some important values, and everybody agrees on that," he said.

He told the story of the Good Samaritan. You know the story. The man is beaten and robbed, lying on the side of the road. Along come two people who pass by on the other side, and then comes the Samaritan who is the outsider in the story, and he's the one who helps the man. And I remember Jim said to those kids, "This illustrates really three philosophies of life, the three ways of approaching life."

He said, "There is the philosophy of the thieves, and their philosophy is what's yours

is mine, and I'll take it." He said, "That philosophy still lives in attacking others and cheating people and greedy business practices and being envious of others and whatever belittles or injures or degrades another person. It's not always physically violent," he said. He said, "We rob others by slander or gossip when we injure their reputations."

And he said, "The second philosophy is that of the two men who saw the wounded man but offered no help." He said, "Their central operating principle is what is mine is all mine, and I'll keep it for myself." He said, "That's less violent, but in its own way it's as selfish as the first." He said, "We can come up with all kinds of excuses to justify not helping those injured along life's highway. We deceive ourselves and ignore their suffering by saying that they're not our responsibility."

Then he said, "Then there's the Samaritan. This was Jesus' model for humanity. He was a stranger and a child of another religious heritage, but he extended himself freely to help one in need. And his philosophy is what's mine is yours if you need it, and I'll share it with you."

And then he said, "Jesus told that story in answer to a question. The question was, Who is my neighbor?" And then he told those kids, "There are these three philosophies of life, and there's only one that makes the world a better place. There's only one that makes your relationships better, and it's that of the Samaritan. And we each can choose how we live."

Now, that illustrates so much how Jim lived and how he wanted to pass on that legacy to those who came after him.

Much has been spoken about his ability to forgive, and I cannot but think, as we meditate on those words of Jesus, the words of Paul about love, Jesus' words about forgiveness, and I can't help but think of the quote that he often gave from Abraham Lincoln.

Someone once asked Lincoln if he believed in destroying his enemies, and Lincoln replied, "Of course, I would like to destroy my enemies because I've never wanted enemies. The only way I know satisfactorily to destroy an enemy is to convert him to a friend."

The Fetzer Institute has done a lot of research on forgiveness, and they define it in a way that I think is so meaningful, and that is, forgiveness is the difficult, intentional process of letting go of an old reality and opening up one's self to a new one. And Jim lived that difficult, intentional process of being able to let go of an old reality and opening up and living a new one.

One friend emailed me and said, "He was the poster child for amazing grace."

That's the legacy that we celebrate today, and there's so much more that could be said. The challenge for all of us today was how do we winnow it down. But you know what? You carry those stories of Jim; you carry those memories; you carry that legacy. Share it; share it with one another; and do your best. Let us all do our best to live it—to live it.

In the obituary that you were handed as you came in, there is a favorite quote of his from Horace Greeley:

"Fame is a vapor, popularity an accident, riches take wings, those who cheer today may curse tomorrow. Only one thing endures—character."

Well done, Jim Wright, good and faithful servant. Let's pray.

Gracious God, we give You thanks for the hope that faith in You gives. For all Your people who have laid hold on that hope, especially we thank You for Your faithful servant Jim Wright. We thank You for all Your goodness to him and for everything in his life that was a reflection of Your love and Your grace. We give You thanks for his faith,

for his love for and his commitment to You and to his family and to his friends, to his Nation.

We give You thanks for his kindness, his passion for justice, his courage, and his strength of character. Loving God, hold us and all who mourn in Your love, and comfort this loving family and comfort us, his friends. Help us all to be ever mindful of Your sustaining presence.

We offer a prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen.

In just a few moments, the family will process out, and you're invited to Wesley Hall, which is across the garden in that adjacent part of the building, for a reception with the family. Please note the instructions that are on the back of your bulletin, and I invite you to please remain seated, if you will, until the ushers direct you.

Ginger shared with me one of her favorite memories of opening of the Presidential display, the new Presidential display in the early 1990s, a room turned into a replica of LBJ's office there in Austin. There was an antique pump organ there signed by all the Members of Congress, and Jake Pickle sat down at the organ and started playing a hymn. And the congressional Members and former Members there started singing the hymn, and it's the hymn that we're going to sing in just a moment after Jim's great-grandchildren give us our benediction.

A benediction isn't really a prayer. It can be a prayer of course, but traditionally, it is not. The word "benediction" literally means "a good word." The great-grandchildren, led by the oldest, Campbell, will give us their good word.

Will you come now.

(Campbell Brown, Jim Wright's great-granddaughter, and Jim Wright's great-grandchildren)

Miss Brown: Hi, my name is Campbell Brown. Everyone on stage with me is a great-grandchild of Jim Wright or, as we like to call him, "Great Pop."

None of us were born when he was in Congress, but we all knew his love for this great country, especially Fort Worth. We are told by many people that he often said, "I want to make the world a better place for my children, their children, and their children's children." Well, that's us. Next to me are the children of the grandchildren. We are the next generation.

We would like to ask you to honor our Great Pop for the rest of the day by thinking about how you can make the world a better place. As you walk out of the church and for the rest of today, think about peace, not war; think about abundance, not scarcity; think about love, not hate, and hope, not despair.

Please help us lift Great Pop to his next roll call by singing the final hymn.

Thank y'all for coming today.

Congregational Hymn—"When the Roll is Called Up Yonder"

Recessional—"For All the Saints"

HONORING NEW HOPE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable church, New Hope First Baptist Church.

In the year 1878, Rev. G.W. Gayles, a traveling missionary became pastor of the Mt. Horeb Missionary Baptist Church after the dis-

missal of Rev. H.M. McIntyre. Although his pastorship was that of outstanding achievements in the church, there arose feelings of rebellion. Eventually, Rev. Gayles with some of his deacons were disbarred from the church. Out of this band of members was born the now New Hope First Baptist Church.

The first modern day pastor of the New Hope First Baptist Church was Rev. H.H. Humes who began pastoring the Church in 1927. Rev. Humes began a long tenure in 1927 which lasted until 1941. During the period of Rev. Humes' tenure in 1940 the church was completely torn down and rebuilt. Earlier the first floor was completely remodeled after the 1927 Flood. The structure completed in 1940 remained the home of New Hope First Baptist Church congregation until 1977. Rev. Humes left the church in 1941 only to return again as the pastor in 1954 and remained in that position until his death in January of 1958.

In 1954, New Hope First Baptist Church began its long relationship with Rev. J.M. Kimble. Rev. Kimble served from 1958 until July of 1969. With his sweet spirit and general manners, Rev. Kimble typified the Christian spirit by his continued visits to the sick in homes and in hospitals. When Rev. Kimble initially left New Hope First Baptist Church in July of 1969, he was followed by Rev. Albert Jenkins who came in the autumn of 1969 and remained pastor until the early part of 1971.

During Rev. Kimble's first tenure as pastor, the church purchased additional land and property on the corner of Theobald and Nelson Streets. At that time the Trustees included Constance W. Watson, Herbert Caver, Joe Hillard and Jessis Winters.

Rev. Kimble returned to New Hope in the early part of 1971 and is presently the pastor. He, like those who preceded him, again took up the challenge of a progressive and assertive Christian force in Greenville. The progress of the church was remarkable as exemplified by the newly constructed building which was made available for services in May of 1978.

The Sunday School, Bible Class, Christian Education, N.B.C., Ushers, Deaconess Broad, Deacons, Pastor's Aid Club, Senior Mission, J.M.A., Red Circle, Choirs, and Trustee Boards have played an important part in the growth and development of this church.

On January 1, 1987, New Hope started commencing full-time service. In recognition of the same, Pastor Kimble and all other New Hoppers are very, very grateful to God and the members of the organizational structure committee for having made a giant step toward providing opportunities for all members of New Hope First Baptist Church to become involved in the church's total program.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing New Hope First Baptist Church for its longevity and dedication to serving others.

REGULATORY INTEGRITY PROTECTION ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 1732) to preserve existing rights and responsibilities with respect to waters of the United States, and for other purposes:

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Chair, I rise today to express my strong opposition to H.R. 1732, the Regulatory Integrity Protection Act. This harmful legislation undermines the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Army Corps of Engineers' ability to regulate and protect our wetlands and streams, and it is an assault on the Clean Water Act.

H.R. 1732 would block the EPA's current Clean Water rulemaking, forcing the EPA and Army Corps of Engineers to go back to the drawing board and start over with the process, undermining years of work undertaken by agencies, businesses, and numerous other stakeholders. Every American deserves to have access to clean water, and the proposed Clean Water rules, under the Clean Water Act, would safeguard the drinking water of more than 117 million people who currently rely on streams lacking clear protection. The EPA has acted to protect America's waters under the Act before, and it is an outrage that House Republicans are blocking the EPA and Army Corps from doing the same now. Americans and businesses deserve certainty and understanding regarding which waterways are covered by the Clean Water Act, and H.R. 1732 would only lead to more confusion.

The EPA engaged in extensive public outreach and received hundreds of thousands of public comments on the proposed Rule, and the Rule is built upon peer-reviewed science. At the very least, the public deserves to see the final rule before Congress decides to block it. Congress should let the EPA and the Army Corps do their jobs and protect America's small streams and wetlands from pollution. I oppose this legislation.

HONORING JANICE BARLOW

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Janice Barlow, who officially retired on May 7, 2015, from her position as the Executive Director of Zero Breast Cancer. For the past fifteen years, Zero Breast Cancer has thrived under Ms. Barlow's leadership, growing beyond the local grassroots to become a regionally and nationally recognized model for communities interested in prevention and elimination of breast cancer.

Janice Barlow has skillfully guided Zero Breast Cancer's development by actively engaging the local community and continuously pursuing research partnerships and opportunities. Over the past 15 years, Janice Barlow has helped Zero Breast Cancer adopt innovative technologies and outreach strategies to engage new demographics and increased revenue despite the recent economic downturn. During this time, Ms. Barlow also personally co-authored two groundbreaking reports: The California Breast Cancer Mapping Project: Identifying Areas of Concern in California and Breast Cancer and the Environment: Prioritizing Prevention.

Under Janice Barlow's leadership, Zero Breast Cancer has successfully partnered with

senior academic scientists on more than a dozen research grants, bringing over 20 million research dollars to Marin County and the greater San Francisco Bay Area. Ms. Barlow has been a particularly strong advocate for increased funding for breast cancer prevention research, which currently comprises only a small portion of overall breast cancer funding. Zero Breast Cancer is a national leader in supporting research on the role of environmental risk factors behind breast cancer and continues to advocate for research that specifically investigates prevalence of breast cancer in Marin County and the Bay Area. By helping to lead a study that investigated the relationship between pubertal development and breast cancer, Ms. Barlow paved the way for breakthrough science focused on youth.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting that we honor and thank Janice Barlow for her years of dedicated service to the people of Marin County and the extended Bay Area community, and for her advocacy on behalf of all whose lives have been impacted by breast cancer. On behalf of the many individuals and organizations she has served, I am privileged to express our deep appreciation to Ms. Janice Barlow for her exemplary leadership, and convey our best wishes as she pursues new endeavors.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF MR. JAMES ECONOMOS

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of my dear friend and lifetime Warren, Ohio resident Mr. James Economos. Mr. Economos was highly regarded within the Warren community for his passion for local businesses, community service, and his unwavering dedication to both the Warren G. Harding High School Football Team and the Ohio State Buckeyes.

Mr. Economos was born in Warren, Ohio in 1938 and dedicated his life to his family, his church, and his family business. He was a proud graduate of the Warren G. Harding High School and Youngstown State University. Mr. Economos joined the United States Army in 1960 and after nine hard years of commendable service, he was honorably discharged with the rank of Captain in 1969.

He married Joan Pompos in May of 1961 and the two were happily married for thirty-three years until her passing in 1995. From 1960 until his passing, Mr. Economos was the owner of Saratoga Restaurant and Catering in Warren, Ohio. His family purchased the business back in 1935. And next year Saratoga Restaurant and Catering will be celebrating its 100th anniversary.

In addition to building a successful business, Mr. Economos was very active in his local church and community. He was a member of Parish Council and served three terms as president of the church council at St. Demetrios Greek Orthodox Church in Warren.

James's service to our country, his dedication to his business, his love for family and friends, and his passion for the Warren G. Harding High School Football Team and the Ohio State Buckeyes, all demonstrate the qualities that made him so special to us.

James's life and legacy contribute to Warren being a better place to live and call home. He is survived by his sisters Dorian, Chrisi, and Jennifer; his son, Eric; his sister Demetra; and four wonderful grandchildren. James was a beloved part of the Warren community and he will be deeply missed.

RECOGNIZING THE 946TH FORWARD SURGICAL TEAM

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. BYRNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the 946th Forward Surgical Team as they prepare for their next deployment.

The 946th was constituted on January 23, 1997 and activated at Fort James H. Wright Reserve Center in Mobile, Alabama. The unit began with six officers and six enlisted soldiers. The 946th has been deployed into active theater in Afghanistan on multiple occasions. The 946th has attended multiple training programs and has received several accolades, including recognition as an "outstanding unit" during Joint Thunder in 2007.

During their deployments, they withstood multiple mortar attacks while supporting major combat missions. While providing medical coverage during combat operations, the 946th performed everything from appendectomies to amputations to open-heart surgery related to trauma. During one deployment, the unit treated over 500 patient traumas, 380 surgical patients, oversaw the conduction of 750 x-rays and laboratory procedures, and coordinated over 300 MEDEVAC transfers.

In April of 2012, Major Forrest L. Neese assumed command of the 946th. In March of 2014, the 946th received honors for its role in WAREX 2014 at Fort McCoy in Wisconsin.

Mr. Speaker, as the 946th prepares to deploy in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel, I want to applaud them for their commitment and service to our nation. They provide such a unique and critical role in supporting our men and women who are working to preserve democracy in a very dangerous part of the world.

So on behalf of Alabama's First Congressional District, I wish them safe travels in their deployment and I ask God to bless the 946th, their families, and all those who serve our great nation.

HONORING POLICE SERGEANT CARL D. PILCHER

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Sergeant Carl Pilcher, a man who has truly devoted himself to public service. Carl was hired as a Police Officer by the Fairfield Police Department on April 11, 1988 and over the duration of his career worked in various capacities which included: Field Training, Patrol, Special Operations, Special Activity Felony Enforcement (SAFE)

Team, and Youth Services. On December 31, 1999 he was promoted to Police Corporal where he served in the Patrol Bureau for two years before being promoted to Police Sergeant on December 28, 2001.

As a Police Sergeant, Carl supervised the Youth Services Unit, investigators in the Major Crimes Unit, and several Patrol teams. Most recently, Sergeant Pilcher spent the past four years running the Personnel and Training Unit, where he ensured the Fairfield Police Department upheld the highest standards in the recruitment, hiring and training of the next generation of law enforcement Officers.

Sergeant Pilcher is a skilled team leader who has received numerous commendations including an Exceptional Performance Citation for his decisive and exemplary leadership. He has been a valued public servant where his hard work and commitment to the community have made him a model representative of the law enforcement community.

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA STUDENTS

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate the University of Central Florida for winning their second national title at the 2015 National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition (NCCDC). Presented in partnership with Raytheon Company and organized by the Center for Infrastructure Assurance and Security (CIAS) at the University of Texas, the NCCDC held April 24–26 in San Antonio, Texas featured finalists from 10 regional competitions nationwide.

The NCCDC, started in 2005 to increase interest in the cyber security field, was the first national cyber security competition designed to test how well college students operate and protect a corporate network infrastructure. Utilizing real world scenarios, students must secure and defend the network infrastructure and business information systems. In addition to scoring the highest in the competition and winning their second NCCDC Alamo Cup, the University of Central Florida team, on behalf of Raytheon, will be coming to Washington, D.C. this summer to visit some of our nation's premier national security sites.

Again, congratulations to the University of Central Florida team for bringing home their second NCCDC national title and establishing the University of Central Florida as a leader in cyber security.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF AARON DUNN ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congress-

sional District. I am pleased to announce that Aaron Dunn of Toledo, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Aaron's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2019. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education, while placing demands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Aaron brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2019. While attending Toledo Christian School in Toledo, Ohio, Aaron was a member of the National Honor Society and Honor Roll. He also played in the marching band, was a class representative and student council member.

Throughout high school, Aaron was a member of his school's cross country, baseball and basketball teams, earning varsity letters in cross country and baseball. I am confident that Aaron will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Aaron Dunn on the offer of his appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Aaron will excel during his career at the Naval Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to the Nation.

HONORING MAJOR ANDY SHIELDS

HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major Andy Shields, Chief Deputy of the Macon County Sheriff's office, who will retire on June 30, 2015.

Major Shields began serving as a patrol officer in Macon County on March 1, 1984, where he was promoted to Sergeant just two years later in 1986. In January of 1990, he began his work as an investigator, serving as the only detective in the Sheriff's office for several years. As more investigators joined the force, Major Shields' leadership as Chief Investigator was instrumental in maintaining a standard of excellence in Macon County law enforcement. After serving overseas with the United Nations Peacekeeping force in Kosovo for two years, Major Shields returned to the Macon County Sheriff's Office in September 2001, where he was eventually promoted to Chief Deputy and has remained in that position since. His training and experience has proven to be exemplary throughout his career. Upon his retirement, Major Shields will be the first employee of the Macon County Sheriff's Office to retire with a full thirty years of service.

Major Shields' unwavering dedication and leadership is something that all of us can admire and respect. As such, I am proud to honor Major Andy Shields for his faithful service to the people of Macon County and congratulate him on his retirement.

PEARLAND FFA STATE TITLE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Turner College and Career High School's (TCCHS) horse judging team who recently claimed the first-ever state title for Pearland Future Farmers of America (FFA).

The team comprised of Rachel Golla, Jessica Harper, Andrea Skweres, and Evann Wehman, competed against 72 other teams at the State Horse Judging Career Development Event. The teammates evaluated and ranked four horses in eight classes. After evaluating the horses, the team answered a series of questions. Their knowledge of appearance, breed characteristics, and athletic ability were really put to the test. This is a great victory for their veterinary science teacher, Jessica Koetting, and the rest of TCCHS. We are excited to see you represent Texas this October in the national competition.

On behalf of the residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to the TCCHS horse judging team for bringing home a state title for Pearland FFA. You have made your community proud.

HONORING DR. DAVID MATTHEWS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Dr. David Matthews. A native of Indianola, Mississippi, Dr. Matthews left an impact on all whom he encountered through his work as a pastor, teacher, and elected official.

A World War II Veteran, Matthews returned to Indianola Colored High School in 1946 to complete his high school diploma. Upon completion of his diploma, Dr. Matthews completed his studies at Morehouse College in 1950, and continued his studies at the Atlanta University, Memphis Theological Seminary, Delta State University, and Reformed Theological Seminary.

Matthews served as pastor at Bell Grove Missionary Baptist Church and Stranger's Home Missionary Baptist Church in 1958, where he served until his death. Matthews also worked as a teacher for thirty-three years. He also served as the first Black Democratic Election Commissioner for Sunflower County, first Black Deputy Chancery Clerk of Sunflower County, first Black Honorary Deputy Sheriff and an original member of Indianola's biracial committee formed during the Civil Rights Era. He also served on the Governor's Commission of Mississippi.

Dr. Matthews received his honorary Doctorate of Divinity from Natchez College, Doctorate of Humanities from Mississippi Industrial College and Doctorate of Divinity from Morris Booker College. On April 15, he left behind a loving and devoted wife of 64 years, Lillian, one daughter, and five grandchildren. Dr. David Matthews spent the entirety of his life serving others for the benefit of his greater

community. He is one of the finest Mississippians, and he will be missed.

COMMENDATION FOR THE LIFE OF
CALVIN PEETE

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life and work of Calvin Peete. Mr. Peete was one of the most successful black professionals in the history of the PGA. Mr. Peete won 12 PGA tournaments over a 25-year career on the tour that began in 1976, and continued on the Champions Tour until 2001. His most successful year was 1982, when he won four tournaments.

Calvin did not begin playing golf until he was in his 20s, but immediately excelled at a game most pros learn as young children. He learned the game while peddling goods to migrant workers in Rochester, New York, playing on the public course at Genesee Valley Park. He was in the top 10 of the Official World Golf Ranking for several weeks when they debuted in 1986. He was the leader in driving accuracy for 10 straight years. This is even more incredible due to the fact that he could not straighten his left arm.

In addition to his playing accomplishments, Mr. Peete supported The First Tee and junior golf in Jacksonville, in addition to other charities.

Mr. Peete passed away after a long battle with lung cancer on April 29, 2015. He was exemplary as a golfer and even more as a person. Throughout his life, he displayed grit and determination in relentless pursuit of his goals. Calvin is survived by his wife, Pepper, and seven children.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
MARY BAHR ON HER OFFER OF
APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE
UNITED STATES MILITARY
ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Mary Bahr of Waterville, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Mary's offer of appointment poises her to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2019. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education, while placing demands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Mary brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2019. While attending Anthony Wayne High School in Whitehouse, Ohio, Mary was a member of the National Honor

Society, Honor Roll, and received scholastic honors. In addition, she was actively involved in her church choir and youth group.

Throughout high school, Mary was a member of her school's cross country and basketball teams, earning her varsity letters in each. I am confident that Mary will carry the lessons of her student and athletic leadership to the Military Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mary Bahr on the offer of her appointment to the United States Military Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Mary will excel during her career at the Military Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to her as she begins her service to the Nation.

HONORING 22 TEACHERS OF THE
GREATER BOCA RATON AREA
AWARDED TEACHER OF THE
YEAR AWARD

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 22 outstanding teachers from my district who have been awarded the Teacher of the Year award from the Rotary Club of Boca Raton Sunrise. These exemplary teachers continue to make a profound impact on our students through their caring, commitment, and professionalism. They are a cohort defined by integrity, excellence, and the highest marks in all they do.

For the past 28 years, the Rotary Club of Boca Raton Sunrise has offered this annual distinction to a teacher at each of the 22 schools in the Greater Boca Raton area. Each awardee is selected by his or her school's principal. These teachers have dedicated themselves to inspiring and empowering the next generation of young South Floridians. The amount of time and effort these individuals have expended for the betterment of their community is truly admirable and exhibits a level of passion worthy of recognition.

Congratulations to Chris Amico, Jonathan Benskin, Charisse Cason, Katie Delucia, Lisa Drescher, Lori Eaton, Dawn Esposito, Jennifer Hammer, Alicia Kaucher, Alexandra Laing, Courtney Lockhart, Ana Millet, Suzette Milu, Charna Rosenfeld, Beth Rubin, Denise Rudy, Jane Simonsen, Doris Vaillancourt-Milano, Kristy Verzaal, Lori Vetter, Cheryl Walling, and Ellen Winikoff on receiving this year's Teacher of the Year Award. I am happy to honor them, and I know that they will continue to inspire South Floridians to live by their example.

TRIBUTE TO DONALD "DANNY"
DANIELSON

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Donald "Danny" Danielson, a devoted family man, respected Hoo-

sier business leader, military veteran and long-time philanthropist. Danny leaves behind his three daughters and eight grandchildren and was preceded in death by his wife of more than six decades, Patricia.

Danny attended Indiana University and graduated with a bachelor's degree in education in 1942. But, instead of launching a career in education, Danny decided to enlist in the U.S. Navy, right in the middle of World War II. He served in both the Pacific and Atlantic Theaters until 1946, when he was discharged with the rank of Lieutenant.

After his service in the military, Danny was invited to attend training camp with the Brooklyn Dodgers, but instead, he took a different route. He worked for the Alumni Association at IU for a while before starting his career at City Securities in 1976. By 1981, Danny was elected Vice Chairman of the board there.

Although busy in his professional and personal life, Danny was a big believer in the importance of community service and giving back. He spent a lot of his time and money working to make Henry County and the state of Indiana a better place for its residents. He and his wife led the effort to relocate the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame to New Castle in 1990, and they also championed for the development of the new Henry County YMCA in 2003. Danny also served on the IU board of trustees for many years and donated \$1.3 million to the Indiana University School of Medicine. He was also chairman of the Walther Cancer Foundation for a time, chaired the Fellowship of Christian Athletes' national board, and served as a director of New Castle's Americana Bancorp.

Because of his outstanding leadership and service to his community, Danny received the Sachem award in 2009, which is the highest honor given by the great state of Indiana. He also received the prestigious Sagamore of the Wabash award and was named a "Living Legend" by the Indiana Historical Society in 2014.

Danny was also my friend. I will always be grateful for the encouragement and support he gave me early in my political career. And, I know the city of New Castle and the State of Indiana will always be grateful for his selfless contributions.

Today, it is my privilege to honor the life of Danny Danielson. My thoughts and prayers go out to Danny's family, and may God comfort those he left behind with his peace and strength.

HONORING THE MARSHALL CHRISTIAN
ACADEMY TCAL 1A STATE
FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

HON. LOUIE GOHMERT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride to come before you in acknowledgement of the exceptional performance of the Marshall Christian Academy Guardians varsity boys basketball team, who recently claimed the 2015 Texas Christian Athletic League 1A state title. This achievement makes this the third consecutive season that the Guardians have dominated the state championship.

Marshall Christian Academy began its play-off performance with an impressive display of

athletic prowess. The Guardians' first game of the 2015 playoffs resulted in a win over Humble Christian School with an astounding score of 80–51. This victory gave the Guardians new energy and inspiration which would carry them victoriously through the two remaining playoff games.

The second playoff game proved to be a difficult obstacle for the Guardians, who were challenged by their 2014 rivals and toughest opponents from Stephenville Faith High School. The score remained close until the final moments of the game. In the last minute of the game, the Guardians proved their commitment and skill by scoring and winning the game with a final score of 52–46. This hard-won victory earned the Guardians a spot in the final playoff game.

The Guardians began the final playoff game confident in both the team's ability and as individual team members. The championship game pitted the Guardians against the San Antonio Sunnybrook Lions. Working together, the Guardians were able to effectively outscore the Lions, and ultimately, Marshall Christian completed the quest for a third straight state championship title with a score of 61–53.

The skilled and committed players who worked so diligently to earn this esteemed honor were David Florence, Dylan Alford, Stephen Florence, Andrew Stokell, Ryan Stokell, Jordan Sammons, Dawson Rapsilver, Jairus Allen, Joshua Florence, William Hency, Matthew Stokell, and Caleb Beesinger. In addition to playing on the state champion team, four players were selected for the All-Tournament Team, and the Guardians were able to count the Tournament MVP within its ranks. Also, the team was honored to have three of its players selected for the All-Star Team.

The coaches and staff who led this accomplished team to victory were Head Coach Jeff Arrington, Assistant Coach James Allen, Assistant Coach Robert Stokell, High School Principal Duane Shultz, Junior High School Principal Raymond Bade, along with Athletic Director and Elementary Principal Guy Barr III.

The Guardians' success has been attributed to their exceptional ability to work as a cohesive unit, and through an incredible display of this teamwork combined with the team's experience and passion, the Guardians prevailed over their skilled opponents and ultimately finished the season with an outstanding record of 22–6.

Please join me and all of the First District of Texas in congratulating the achievements of the Marshall Christian Academy Guardians. This exceptional illustration of teamwork and sportsmanship should be praised and emulated. It is a distinct honor to share the story and example of these outstanding young men, a story which is now recorded in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD which will endure as long as there is a United States of America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SCOTT DesJARLAIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Mr. Speaker, due to airplane equipment problems, I was unavoidably detained and I missed the following votes:

Roll Call Vote No. 216, passage of H.R. 606, the Don't Tax Our Fallen Public Safety Heroes Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Roll Call Vote No. 217, on agreeing to the Edwards Amendment to H.R. 1732. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

Roll Call vote No. 219, passage of H.R. 1732, the Regulatory Integrity Protection Act of 2015. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Roll Call Vote No. 220, passage of H.R. 2146, the Defending Public Safety Employees Retirement Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO REMOVE THE RESTRICTIONS ON CERTAIN LAND TRANSFERRED TO ROCKINGHAM COUNTY, VIRGINIA

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation to transfer land from the U.S. Department of Interior to Rockingham County, Virginia. For over 25 years, Rockingham County, Virginia has managed a small area of land in my congressional district as if it belonged to the County to meet the needs of the community and serve the public good. Although this land was already transferred from the Federal Government to the County, it was not done effectively. This legislation will finalize the efforts of a previous Congress and fully transfer this land to the County, while continuing to meet public needs.

Since 1989, a little over 3 acres of land and its associated buildings, previously wholly held by the Federal Government, have been maintained by Rockingham County and the Plains Area Daycare Center. In that year, the Department of the Interior deeded this land, which it no longer used, to Rockingham County for public good.

Prior to this official declaration, Rockingham County had already been maintaining the lands around the facility. The land and building had been used as a garage and maintenance facility for the National Forest Service. However, it was no longer being utilized, and the County was performing upkeep on the land.

PL 101–479 was approved in the 101st Congress to allow the buildings on this land to be used for the particular use of a non-profit day care that serves the County. Unfortunately, because of the narrow way Public Law 101–479 was drafted, any extension or maintenance of the physical structures has required approval by the Department of the Interior. Given that the building is used for a child care facility, this impedes the ability of the day care to move efficiently to make any necessary upgrades. The building is currently in need of repairs; however, because of the terms of the deed, the daycare center has been unable to get a loan to complete the needed renovations.

To be clear, the center and the playground are the sole reason that this previously abandoned government land is being used by the public today. The Federal Government no longer has a vested interest in the land.

Mr. Speaker, my legislation, which was approved by the House of Representatives in nearly a unanimous manner in the 113th Congress as H.R. 5162, is a simple formality. I have been pleased to visit the Plains Area Daycare Center on many occasions. By passing this legislation and allowing Rockingham County more authority over the land, it will ensure that more children and more of the community will be served by this land.

I urge swift consideration of this bill in the 114th Congress.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL GRINDLE ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Michael Grindle of Holland, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Michael's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2019. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education, while placing demands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Michael brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2019. While attending Springfield High School in Holland, Ohio, Michael was a member of the National Honor Society, Principal's Honor Roll, Foreign Language Club, and served as class secretary.

Throughout high school, Michael was a member of his school's swim team, cross country team, and football team. He was also a member of men's gymnastics at the Toledo YMCA. I am confident that Michael will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Air Force Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Michael Grindle on the offer of his appointment to the United States Air Force Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Michael will excel during his career at the Air Force Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to the Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I was not able to be present for the following Roll Call vote on May 12, 2015 and would like to reflect that I would have voted as follows:

Roll Call #216: YES
 Roll Call #217: YES
 Roll Call #218: YES
 Roll Call #219: NO
 Roll Call #220: YES

HONORING OLEXIS BRIANNA
 HAYMON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a goal oriented student, Olexis Brianna Haymon.

Olexis is the daughter of Otha and Debra Haymon, longtime residents of Pickens, Mississippi.

Olexis Brianna Haymon possesses a 4.0 grade-point average since she was in kindergarten. Currently a 12th-grader, Olexis Brianna Haymon is no stranger to community service. Whenever the town of Pickens, Mississippi has its cleanup days, Olexis is always right there doing her part to help her community.

In addition to that, Olexis often volunteers to help her mother, Debra Haymon, an employee of Mid-Delta Home Health, with community health fairs. She is also an active participant in the Leadership program of the Mississippi State Extension Service for Holmes County, Mississippi.

Olexis has made history as the first queen of the recently merged Holmes County Central High School of 2014–2015. The Holmes County School District merged all three of its high schools into one newly-named school for educational enhancement. Olexis is Miss Holmes County Central High School.

Not only is Olexis active in her community, but also active in her school as well. She is a member of the PTSA (Parent Teacher Student Association) in which she is responsible for the school membership drive. According to one of her teachers, "She encourages and provides help to fellow classmates because she believes in helping everyone succeed." She definitely tries to be a role model for the 9th graders. Her high school counselor commented in a letter of reference that "Olexis is a well-rounded person. She is well behaved, has great personality and has many leadership qualities."

Olexis also actively served as the 2014 president for her school's Jobs for Mississippi Graduates (JMG) program. Recently, she earned first place in the Community Students Learning Center's Annual Essay Writing Contest and thereby was the recipient of the Community Students Learning Center's Scholarship Award in the amount of \$500.00. Olexis plans to use her CSLC scholarship winnings toward her college pursuit in nursing at Tougaloo College, Tougaloo, Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Olexis Brianna Haymon, as a student who is goal oriented and making a difference in her community.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
 DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,152,456,926,656.13. We've added \$7,525,579,877,743.05 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

CELEBRATING THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE PATRICIA WALSH

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the public service of the Honorable Patricia Walsh, member of the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders, as she is honored by the Boy Scouts of America during the 2015 Tribute to Women Awards.

Freeholder Walsh has for years been a dedicated public servant to the Somerset County community and her native Green Brook. Her many accomplishments and contributions to the county, its residents and New Jersey have improved the lives of many. As a member of the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders, she has held various positions, including director of board, deputy director and liaison to many community programs and departments serving the 21 municipalities in Somerset County. Prior to her service as a Freeholder, Pat was Mayor of Green Brook and a member of the governing body.

Freeholder Walsh has been of service to many public interest groups and volunteer organizations, political campaigns and party political activities and has earned numerous awards honors for her time and service to each.

Freeholder Walsh and her colleagues on the Board of Chosen Freeholders have worked tirelessly for years to ensure that Somerset County is a wonderful place to live and raise a family. Their management of the county finances, parks, health care system, education and public works has made Somerset one of the best counties in America.

I congratulate Patricia Walsh for her well-earned recognition.

TRIBUTE TO DR. RAYMOND M.
 MADDOX

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Dr. Raymond M. Maddox, a well-known dentist and respected member of the Rushville community.

Dr. Maddox was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather. He was married to his wife Kay Maddox for 43 years. Together, they had two children and four grandchildren. A lifelong Hoosier, Ray attended Taylor University and graduated with a bachelor's degree in both biology and chemistry in 1971. After college, he attended and graduated from Indiana University's School of Dentistry in 1975 to pursue a professional dental career. Dr. Maddox then practiced dentistry in Rushville and Hartford City for several decades.

In addition to his practice, he served in many leadership roles in the dental community. He was the past president of the Indiana Dental Association, delegate to the American Dental Association caucus 7th district, fellow of the American College of Dentists, president of the American College of Dentistry-Indiana Foundation, vice speaker of IDA House of Delegates, and Parliamentarian of IDA House of Delegates.

Although Ray was known as a great dentist and as someone dedicated to his profession, he was respected and loved for much more than that. Members of the community, his family and friends loved him for his ability to create meaningful relationships and brighten the lives of all those with whom he came in contact.

Ray Maddox was my friend. I will never forget his smile, his positive attitude and his strong support of my own career in public service. They don't come any more loyal than Ray Maddox.

Today, it is my privilege to honor his life and legacy. My thoughts and prayers go out to Ray's family, and may God comfort those he left behind with his peace and strength.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
 MASON JESSING ON HIS OFFER
 OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND
 THE UNITED STATES NAVAL
 ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. LATTI. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Mason Jessing of Delta, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Mason's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2019. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education, while placing demands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Mason brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2019. While attending Delta High School in Delta, Ohio, Mason was a member of the National Honor Society, Honor Roll, and Academic Excellence Award recipient.

Throughout high school, Mason was a member of his school's football, track and powerlifting teams, earning varsity letters in football. He was also an MRA motocross rider.

I am confident that Mason will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mason Jessing on the offer of his appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Mason will excel during his career at the Naval Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to the Nation.

HONORING PHOEBE CLYDE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Phoebe Clyde of Logos Prep Academy for winning the gold medal in the 300-meter hurdles event at the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) 3A state track team championships.

Ms. Clyde defended her state title in the 300-meter hurdle event by running an impressive time of 47.14 seconds. She then anchored the 1600-meter relay where her team earned the silver medal. What an excellent performance to end her senior year.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Phoebe Clyde for winning the District TAPPS 3A gold medal in the 300-meter hurdle race. We look forward to seeing what you will accomplish in the future.

CONGRATULATING THE PARISH EPISCOPAL SCHOOL FOR THEIR SELECTION AS REGIONAL WINNERS OF THE 2015 TOSHIBA/NATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION EXPLORAVISION AWARD

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Rishul Rai and Pavitra Kumar of the Parish Episcopal School in Dallas, Texas, in my district, for their recent selection as the Region 5 winner of the Grade 4–6 age group of the 2015 Toshiba/National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) ExploraVision Award. With 5,000 teams entered within 6 regions, this is an incredibly impressive accomplishment.

The Toshiba/NTSA ExploraVision competition goes beyond a typical student science competition. Teachers guide groups of 2–4 students through a simulation of real research and development as they pick a current technology and envision how it will look in 20 years, as well as the breakthroughs necessary to reach that point. Rishul and Pavitra's entry, Dehydra DH, uses wearable technology to determine the dehydration level of athletes by monitoring the level of salt in a player's sweat. The device would then alert the player, coaching staff, or medical personnel if severe levels

are reached. The focus on the STEM field is growing increasingly important, and competitions like these that foster that development inherently improve our nation and its future. The Dehydra DH entry for the ExploraVision Award by the Parish Episcopal School is truly impressive, and these students are very deserving of this honor.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in honoring this great achievement by Rishul Rai and Pavitra Kumar of the Parish Episcopal School of Dallas.

HONORING JEFFREY BUJER AND HIS WORK WITH SABAN COMMUNITY CLINIC

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jeffrey Bujer.

Jeffrey Bujer is the current Chief Executive Officer of Saban Community Clinic. He began working for Saban Community Clinic in 1998, when it was known as the Los Angeles Free Clinic. He joined the organization as its Chief Financial Officer and moved into a co-CEO role before becoming the sole Chief Executive Officer in 2012.

Under his leadership, Saban Community Clinic has greatly evolved in its structure and brand. It has moved from a free clinic structure to a Federally Qualified Health Center and has grown from a staff of 62 serving 9,000 patients each year to a staff of over 200 serving 20,000 patients each year. The Clinic has expanded its services to include both primary care and mental health treatment. Jeffrey led the Clinic in expanding to three locations in Los Angeles and implementing an electronic health record system. In 2007, Jeffrey oversaw the capital campaign that raised \$17 million in honor of Saban Community Clinic's 40th anniversary.

Jeffrey has touched countless lives in his leadership role and will be missed by all when he leaves his position this year. His passion for serving others and commitment to health care for all is an inspiration. Our community owes a debt of gratitude to Jeffrey Bujer for his hard work and dedication.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jeffrey Bujer and wishing him well for the future.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOROUGH OF MAGNOLIA

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the One-hundredth Anniversary of the founding of the Borough of Magnolia in Camden County, New Jersey.

On April 14, 1915, the citizens of the future Borough of Magnolia were formally recognized by the New Jersey Legislature as an inde-

pendent borough out of Clementon Township. However, history for this small town did not begin in 1915. Settled in 1685, the area we know today as Magnolia, New Jersey has a deep history of rich involvement in the South Jersey community as one of the first settled communities of colonial New Jersey.

The land that makes up Magnolia was once inhabited by the Native American Tribe of Lenni-Lenape who lived peacefully alongside Quaker farmers. William Penn, the future founder of Pennsylvania, worked diligently with this dedicated group of Quakers to settle in the southern section of colonial New Jersey. These settlers practiced a modest way of living based on agriculture and timber production. Over the next three hundred years, the community in the Magnolia area thrived, and in the past century, the population of Magnolia has quadrupled to over 4,000 today.

Mr. Speaker, the Borough of Magnolia is small in size, but it is enormous in heart and community, a feeling that is best encapsulated through its motto: "One Square Mile of Friendliness." This week, as the people of Magnolia celebrate their Centennial celebrations, I congratulate the citizens, Mayor BettyAnn Cowling-Carson, and council of Magnolia on their past one hundred years of experiences and accomplishments and wish them another hundred years of richness and good fortune.

25TH ANNUAL LOCAL COLORS FESTIVAL

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, as the Roanoke community prepares to celebrate the 25th Annual Local Colors Festival, I want to take this opportunity to express my deepest thanks to my constituent, Pearl Fu, for her leadership of the Roanoke Valley's annual celebration of our diverse heritage.

Pearl is a truly special individual and has played an instrumental role in bringing the Roanoke Valley together over the last quarter century. She has offered Local Colors as a special event to remind us that, as Americans, we are one country out of many nationalities that have preceded us on these shores. In Local Colors, she solidified a celebration of the varied cultures that make up the Roanoke region. She helped increase awareness of our history—a melting pot of origins, races, and ethnic backgrounds.

Late last year, Pearl marked the culmination of her leadership of this event. Local Colors is known by many for what they encounter at the festival—a day to share food and fellowship; enjoy music, arts, and crafts; and, experience the languages, attire, and traditions of the more than 100 countries whose roots have been planted in Roanoke and its neighboring cities, towns, and counties.

However, I also want to recognize Pearl for what she did day in and day out for so many years. Through Local Colors, she worked with many other individuals and organizations to offer language translations and conflict resolution, publicity in the local media, and multicultural education for schoolchildren, community organizations, government officials, and businesses. Without Pearl at the helm, none of this would have been possible.

I fondly remember selecting Local Colors as a "Local Legacy" project in 1999, bringing national recognition from the Library of Congress that has permitted so many people around our nation and around the world to experience what Local Colors is all about. They can visit the Library of Congress, view the digital recognition on the Internet, or visit the festival to see all that it has become.

Local Colors is truly one of America's proud traditions. Pearl can stand assured that she has been responsible for its success and the community is thankful to her for helping them experience such a memorable event over so many years.

As Pearl steps away from the leadership of Local Colors, I and so many others will continue to support and experience Local Colors as a way of showing the world that we are truly one nation. I extend my gratitude to Pearl for making it all possible for us and for her deep spirit of goodwill.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF
JOSHUA MOSSING ON HIS OFFER
OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND
THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Joshua Mossing of Sylvania, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Joshua's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2019. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education, while placing demands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Joshua brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2019. While attending Central Catholic High School in Toledo, Ohio, Joshua was a member of the National Honor Society, Summa Cum Laude Honor Roll, and was top ten in class rank.

Throughout high school, Joshua was a member of his school's wrestling and football teams, earning varsity letters in wrestling and voted team captain of the wrestling team. I am confident that Joshua will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Air Force Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Joshua Mossing on the offer of his appointment to the United States Air Force Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Joshua will excel during his career at the Air Force Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to the Nation.

HONORING BAHATI S. HARDEN, MD

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bahati S. Harden, MD, who has achieved remarkable success and has been exemplary as a physician and a public servant.

Dr. Harden was born in Adams County in Natchez, MS on June 24, 1979 to the late George Harden and Deborah Harden. Being the baby girl, she was a godly child who called her father her best friend at an early age and grew up in a household of love and support.

Bahati finished high school and received a scholarship to Spelman College in Atlanta, GA where she completed her studies in Biology in 2001. After graduating with a Master's of Science in Public Health from Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, she accepted a fellowship in Bioterrorism Preparedness with the Centers for Disease Control and prevention.

Having a desire to pursue a medical degree, she entered the University of MS Medical Center's Inaugural Professional Portal Track. Having received a Master's of Science in Biomedical Science, she completed her Doctorate of Medicine also at the University of MS Medical Center. After completing a residency at LSU Health (Shreveport, LA) in Rural Family Medicine, Dr. Harden accepted a position in MS Delta with the Greenwood Leflore Hospital in Greenwood, MS where she continues to practice.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Bahati S. Harden, a Doctor and Public Servant, for her dedication to serving others and giving back to the African American community.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF MRS.
CARRIE 'GRANDMA REIGLE'
(RIZZI) REIGLE

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of Mrs. Carrie Reigle, who passed away peacefully in the presence of her family on Easter Sunday. Carrie was known to all of us as Grandma Reigle. She was born on October 24, 1917 to her loving parents Vincenzo and Angelina Rizzi. She attended Niles High School and after graduating she attended the Choffin School of Nursing, completing her degree in 1960.

It came as no surprise that Carrie spent her life's work as a nurse mending the broken. To all who knew her she was a caring person whose love and compassion stemmed beyond measure. Carrie's early career consisted of her hard work in the Intensive Care Unit as a nurse at Northside Hospital. She spent twenty-two years at her post until retiring in 1983. Even in retirement Carrie's commitment to helping others led to her return to nursing in 1984 at the Shepherd of the Valley Nursing Home in Niles, Ohio.

In 1996, she retired from Shepherd of the Valley, but still decided she had more to give.

She later returned to nursing part-time with Dr. Pokabla at his office in Howland, Ohio until 2002 where she fully retired at the age of 84. She was very proud of her nursing career as it brought her so much happiness.

Carrie's greatest pride and joy were her family and friends. She married the love of her life, Sam "Kinger" Reigle on October 19, 1937. The two spent over forty years happily married until Mr. Reigle's passing on Christmas Day in 1980. Carrie enjoyed life to the fullest and took pleasure in cooking her famous Italian meals. I grew up with Grandma Reigle's grandson Sammy. And almost every day as a young boy, I would stop by Sammy's house to see what Grandma Reigle had cooked. She always had homemade Italian pizza, or soup, or pasta fagioli. She loved to cook and then watch us eat. We would sit around with our friends and play games and Grandma Reigle would feed us. She was always warm and caring and she was a most wonderful Grandma.

Carrie is preceded in death by her husband Sam, parents Vincenzo and Angelina, brothers Sam, Anthony, and Joseph, sisters Elizabeth, Mary, Lucille, and Angie, as well as her dear friend Jane Logar. Carrie leaves behind her son Richard, grandson Sam and wife Lori, two great-grandchildren, Isabella and Sammy, her nieces and nephews, and her great-nieces and nephews. Carrie made our community a better place to call home. She warmed the hearts of many and will be remembered as sweet Grandma Reigle. I am deeply saddened by her passing and will miss her. We all are better people because Grandma Reigle touched our lives. Thank you Carrie for all of your hard work and service, your compassion for others will continue to live on through the many lives you have touched.

IN RECOGNITION OF RAY
MILLER'S RETIREMENT

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ray Miller, a thirty year veteran of the Coast Guard Reserves and the Commander of the American Legion post in Hanover, Massachusetts.

Mr. Miller's career in the Coast Guard Reserves led him to serve this great nation in her darkest moments. In the days immediately following the September eleventh terrorist attacks, Mr. Miller was called into active duty to help secure our shores against those who sought to sow continued chaos. In the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Mr. Miller once again answered the call of duty by deploying to Mobile, Alabama to help restore normalcy to the lives of those residents of the Gulf. And when that normalcy was disrupted once more in the Deep Water Horizon crisis, Ray Miller did not hesitate to once again help the residents of the Gulf of Mexico.

Closer to his home, Mr. Miller helped keep Boston safe during the Democratic National Convention in the summer of 2004. And then again in 2012, he served the people of this region by aiding the recovery efforts in the devastating aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. The veterans and members of the American Legion community in Hanover have been well

served because of his work as Legion Post Commander.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Mr. Ray Miller on this remarkable occasion. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing him a wonderful retirement and many years of happiness.

HONORING JEFF CARDWELL

HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Jeff Cardwell for his work as the North Carolina Emergency Management Area Coordinator and congratulate him on his retirement.

Mr. Cardwell began his career serving as a Fire Officer for the Gamewell Fire Department, where he still serves today. He served as a firefighter for the city of Lenoir from 1986 to 1991 and for the City of Hickory from 1991 to 1993. In 1993 Mr. Cardwell began his career with North Carolina Emergency Management, serving as an Area Trainer and working his way toward an administrative role. During his time with North Carolina Emergency Management, he worked on twenty-six FEMA disaster declarations and eight of North Carolina declarations, including every major disaster in North Carolina since 1993. Mr. Cardwell has been recognized for his outstanding service several times, receiving awards including the Western North Carolina Firefighter Association Officer of the Year in 2001 and the Colonel William A. Thompson Award as the North Carolina Emergency Management Employee of the Year.

Mr. Cardwell has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to serving the people of North Carolina in emergency management. As such, I am proud to honor Mr. Jeff Cardwell for his faithful service to the people of North Carolina and I wish him the best on his retirement.

TOGETHER CONGRESS CAN COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, a miraculous thing happened recently in Washington. Both parties came together to negotiate important legislation, the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act, moving beyond partisan attacks and rhetoric to find common ground. Their compromise passed the Senate by a vote of 99–0. This is not only important from a procedural, functional standpoint, it's important because it will help fight a major problem in our society: human trafficking, one of the fastest growing criminal enterprises in the United States. We urge the House to bring the Senate bill up for a vote without delay.

Many of us do not realize that in this nation, and in our own backyards, individuals are held against their will, their bodies sold repeatedly day in and day out. This modern-day form of slavery is an enormous black market, with an estimated value of \$9.8 billion in the U.S.

The average age of children sold into the sex trade is just 13. As Americans, and as parents and grandparents, we cannot turn a blind eye to this fact any more. Human trafficking is real. It is in every state, city and suburb in America. It is imperative that we protect American children from the traffickers who prey upon the most vulnerable in our society.

The Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act is a robust and aggressive response that does three main things.

First, the bill targets demand. Going after those who buy and sell our children will help decimate this industry. The legislation treats those who pay for sex with minors and other trafficking victims as criminals and will help prosecutors put them where they belong: behind bars.

Second, the bill focuses on restoring the victims. Children who are sold for sex are victims, not prostitutes, and it's time to treat them as such by ensuring that they have a safe place to stay, resources they need for rehabilitation and services uniquely tailored for human trafficking survivors.

Lastly, the bill provides resources to train law enforcement and others who may come into contact with human trafficking victims to better identify and respond to their needs. The bill creates a fund built from fees and fines collected from convicted traffickers.

We urge the House to bring S. 178, the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act, to the floor for a vote and send it to the president's desk for signature. It will be a powerful day when Washington can stand together to proclaim, "Our children are not for sale."

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF BRADLEY KRUPP ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Bradley Krupp of Bowling Green, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Bradley's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2019. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education, while placing demands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Bradley brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2019. While attending Bowling Green High School in Bowling Green, Ohio, Bradley was a member of the National Honor Society, Honor Roll, French Honor Society and received student athlete awards. In addition, he was a member of the Key Club, French club and drama club.

Throughout high school, Bradley was a member of his school's cross country team

and earned his varsity letter. I am confident that Bradley will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Military Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Bradley Krupp on the offer of his appointment to the United States Military Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Bradley will excel during his career at the Military Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to the Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, on roll call nos. 216, 217, 218, 219, and 220 I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained due to travel.

Had I been present, I would have voted aye on roll call 216.

Had I been present, I would have voted nay on roll call 217.

Had I been present, I would have voted nay on roll call 218.

Had I been present, I would have voted aye on roll call 219.

Had I been present, I would have voted aye on roll call 220.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed roll call votes 208, 209, and 210. If present, I would have voted "no" on roll call vote 208, "no" on roll call vote 209, and "no" on roll call vote 210.

TRIBUTE TO RETIRING ST. JOSEPH COUNTY CLERK PATTIE BENDER

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to retiring St. Joseph County Clerk Pattie Bender. Pattie is a staple of our Southwest Michigan community and my dear friend. I rise to thank her for 45 years of distinguished public service.

A life-long resident of Southwest Michigan, Pattie currently serves in a dual capacity as county clerk and register of deeds. She began her career with St. Joseph County in 1970 and has served as county clerk since 1991.

The office of town or county clerk is one of the oldest known offices in local government, essential to the functioning of our democracy. It is an office of trust that demands the utmost integrity and diligence. As clerk, Pattie is entrusted with the supervision of all national,

state, and local elections; administers the Michigan Campaign Finance Reporting Act; and maintains all government records for the county.

Having known Pattie for many years, I can attest to the fact that no one is better suited for such a position. Throughout the years, she has faithfully served the people of St. Joseph County, fairly and competently executing her duties. Personally, I have come to rely on her extensive institutional knowledge and good judgment. There is no doubt that the citizens of St. Joseph County, having reelected her to the office of county clerk six times, share my good opinion.

In January, Pattie announced that she will retire in June of this year, planning to travel and spend time with her family. As she embarks on the next chapter of her life, I would like to congratulate her on a well-deserved retirement and thank her for her many years of public service to the citizens of St. Joseph County.

It has been an honor to work with Pattie and to count her as a true friend. She will be greatly missed in her capacity as county clerk, but I am confident she will continue to serve as a source of wisdom in Southwest Michigan for years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MENDOTA HEIGHTS OFFICER SCOTT PATRICK

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the men and women serving this nation as law enforcement officers who have given their lives in the line of duty. This week is Police Week where we reflect upon the service and sacrifice of the thousands of women and men who keep our communities safe and put their lives on the line on our behalf. For their courage, commitment and bravery, these women and men have my greatest respect.

Last year, the Twin Cities East Metro lost an officer in the line of duty when Officer Scott Patrick was gunned down in the line of duty during a traffic stop in St. Paul. Whenever an act of violence this senseless and tragic takes place, it shakes a community deeply. Officer Patrick's loss is still felt each day by his family and his fellow officers on the Mendota Heights Police force. This week we join them in mourning the loss of their loved one and friend. On Wednesday, Officer Scott's name will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial Wall in Washington, DC.

The work that police officers and law enforcement officials do to keep our communities safe is often thankless and dangerous. As a society, we place an enormous amount of trust in those officers and they play a critical role in shaping the world we live in. Those who serve in law enforcement have my greatest respect for the work that they do to live up to and earn that trust in their communities.

As a member of Congress, one of my jobs is to make sure police officers have the tools they need to keep their communities safe while returning home to their families safely

each night. Whether this means personal safety protection, body cameras or computer systems that they need we must consider doing more for law enforcement agencies. I am proud to say that I have been a champion for more effective communication between law enforcement officers and first responders throughout my time in Congress and I look forward to continuing that partnership with the police community.

This week, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring police week by remembering those officers who have given their lives in service of their communities.

HONORING THE NOMINEES FOR KANE COUNTY CHIEFS OF POLICE ASSOCIATION'S 2014 LOUIS SPUHLER OFFICER OF THE YEAR FOR KANE COUNTY AWARD

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the nominees for the 2014 Kane County Chiefs of Police Association's Louis Spuhler Officer of the Year for Kane County Award.

The award, presented by the Batavia Moose Lodge #682 and the Kane County Chiefs of Police Association, recognizes the outstanding achievements of police officers who protect our community. The men and women who wear the badge provide our families with security while putting their own lives on the line and deserve our admiration and thanks.

I would like to congratulate the winner of the 2014 Louis Spuhler Officer of the Year for Kane County Officer Samuel G. Aguirre of the Aurora Police Department, as well as his fellow nominees: Officer David M. Berner of the Aurora Police Department, Officer Roger Isham of the South Elgin Police Department, Deputy Raul Salinas and Chief Deputy Thomas Bumgarner of the Kane County Sheriffs Office, Sergeant Gregory Sullivan of the Montgomery Police Department, Officer Timothy Beam of the St. Charles Police Department, Officer Michael Gallagher and Officer KC Brox of the Sleepy Hollow Police Department, Detective Miguel Pantoja of the Elgin Police Department, and Sergeant Mike Frieders, Detective Matt Dean, Detective Brad Jerdee, Detective Bob Pech, Detective Sarah Sullivan, and Officer Matt Hann of the Geneva Police Department.

Congratulations to the nominees for the 2014 Louis Spuhler Officer of the Year for Kane County Award and thank you for your continued dedication to the safety and security of our community.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF SAMANTHA MEINEN ON HER OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO AT- TEND THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an out-

standing student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Samantha Meinen of Toledo, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Samantha's offer of appointment poises her to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2019. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education, while placing demands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Samantha brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2019. While attending Whitmer Senior High School in Toledo, Ohio, Samantha was a member of the National Honor Society, German club, DECA and earned awards in science, English and social studies.

Throughout high school, Samantha was a member of her school's volleyball, basketball and track teams. I am confident that Samantha will carry the lessons of her student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Samantha Meinen on the offer of her appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Samantha will excel during her career at the Naval Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to her as she begins her service to the Nation.

SUGAR CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sugar Creek Baptist Church for celebrating 40 years of prayer and worship.

This 9,600-member church is a local and global leader. The church contributes upwards of \$2 million annually to local and international mission and church development programs. Over the last 12 years, Sugar Creek Baptist Church has directly supported 93 new churches. Just last year, the church led the development of the Freedom Church Alliance, an organization that works with local churches and organizations to fight human trafficking. Its members are constant volunteers in local refugee and prison communities, too. Throughout its 40 years, Sugar Creek Baptist Church has been a model of faith and a leader in our community.

Thank you to Sugar Creek Baptist Church and its members for all they do in Sugar Land and throughout the world. We are excited to see what the next 40 years hold for you.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED
PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE HONOR-
ABLE DAVID L. HUGHES

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished public service of the Honorable David L. Hughes, who retired earlier this year after 41 years as the City Clerk and Secretary to the Mayor and Common Council of Summit, New Jersey. During his record tenure, David achieved a number of significant accomplishments in service to the City of Summit.

David oversaw the transformation of the City Clerk position, bringing community services into the 21st century and instituting greater accessibility and transparency. To the benefit of residents, downtown merchants and taxpayers, public information is readily available and put to good use for City projects.

David was an integral part of the coordination of City business, reviewing all matters before the Council's consideration, securing legal and background information from stakeholders and forming advisory opinions so that elected officials could make the most informed decisions. He also managed the municipal elections—a major undertaking including the oversight of 25 election districts, numerous polling machines and poll workers and thousands of ballots cast in each election.

Due to his years of service and trusted counsel, David and his office became an encyclopedia of City history, local ordinances and best practices. I join elected officials from both parties and countless Summit residents in considering David a very thoughtful public servant.

I wish David many years of enjoyment in his retirement spent with, his wife, Maria, and his children. I thank him for his dedicated public service.

CONGRESSIONAL COMMENDATION
FOR THE LIFE OF CHARLES
DAUGHTRY TOWERS, JR.

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, we are deeply and profoundly saddened by the loss of our friend, Charles Towers, Jr. This man of prominence and bearing was the epitome of a gentleman and a scholar. We were moved by his passion, emboldened by his commitments, honored by his friendship and made all the better by his innate wisdom and his belief in the integrity of the human experience. We came to know him as a husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather, World War II veteran, Silver Star Recipient, and dedicated servant to people and causes, a humanitarian, a civic leader and businessman without comparison.

As a member of the Jacksonville community for more than ninety years, Charlie Towers, presence will be missed by many. In 1949, he began his career as an attorney, with Rogers Towers & Bailey Law Firm and continued until

his retirement in 2000. He served on many community boards in positions of leadership up to and including, Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce, Salvation Army, Jacksonville Tocqueville Society, long time member and devoted Deacon, Elder and Trustee of First Presbyterian Church and many other organizations.

Though our hearts ache, our tears of pain are mixed with loving memories of his smile, his touch and that gleam in his eyes telling all who knew him, that he loved you and always will. And in his remembrance, we are drawn to the words of Paul, in the book of 2nd Timothy, "For I am now ready to be offered, the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept my faith". May the Lord bless and keep you now and forevermore and may the memory of our dear friend, Charles Daughtry Towers, Jr., remain with us for all times.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF AN-
DREW WEISS ON HIS OFFER OF
APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Andrew Weiss of Findlay, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Andrew's offer of appointment poses him to attend the United States Naval Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2019. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education, while placing demands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Andrew brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2019. While attending Findlay High School in Findlay, Ohio, Andrew was a member of the National Honor Society and Honor Roll. He earned his Eagle Scout award with the Boy Scouts of America and was selected for Buckeye Boys State. In addition, he earned his private pilot's license.

Throughout high school, Andrew was a member of his school's track team where he served as team captain and earned his varsity letter. I am confident that Andrew will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Andrew Weiss on the offer of his appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Andrew will excel during his career at the Naval Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to the Nation.

HONORING MS. SHERRI STRAUER

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine, Ms. Sherri Strauser. She will be retiring from the Windsor C-1 School District on July 1, 2015. Ms. Strauser has contributed to the educational system for 37 years.

Ms. Strauser has worked in various capacities: 3rd Grade Teacher, Intermediate Center Assistant Principal, Intermediate Principal, and Assistant Superintendent. She has worked in the Dunklin R-V School District and is ending her career in the Windsor C-1 School District. Her current title of Assistant Superintendent has allowed her the opportunity to connect personally with students, staff, parents, and the community. This Assistant Superintendent position has given her the opportunity to direct Curriculum and Instruction, Special Services, Team Leaders, Professional Development, and serve as the Compliance Officer for the District. During her time in each position, she was committed to making a difference in the lives of students. Ms. Strauser has received the Dunklin R-V Teacher of the Year award, Dunklin National Education Association Award, and the 'Who's Who Among American Educators' award. These awards showcase her ability to make a positive impact on anyone she comes into contact with.

Over the years, Ms. Strauser has been an active member of her community, and the state, through memberships with the Rotary Club, Missouri Association of School Administrators, Missouri Association of School Business Officials, and the Missouri Association of Elementary School Principals. From her time giving back to the community, it has enabled her to nourish productive relationships and witness success for thousands of individuals.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Ms. Sherri Strauser on her retirement after 37 years of commitment to students.

HONORING THE MARTIN'S MILL
LADY MUSTANGS

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor the Martin's Mill Lady Mustangs basketball team who won the Texas 2A High School Basketball Championship on March 7, 2015 at the Alamodome in San Antonio. This victory marked the third time since 2008 the Lady Mustangs captured the title.

I would like to recognize teammates Jocie Bennett, Cheyenne Brown, Calli Camacho, Hailey Celsur, Hannah Celsur, Madi Daniel, Jacee Greenlee, Hailey Hawes, Briley Moon, Hannah Munns, Sarah Munns and Alyssa Pate. I would also like to recognize Head Coach Luran Jenkins, Assistant Coach Melissa Camacho and Managers Lydia Burns, Mollie Daniel, Hannah Manry, Abbie Orrick and Taylor Sparks.

As the congressional representative of the families, coaches, and supporters of the Lady

Mustangs, it is my pleasure to recognize their outstanding season and continued success. This victory and accomplishment is an event that these young ladies will remember for the rest of their lives.

IN RECOGNITION OF ASSISTANT
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
CHARLES LEWIS

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Assistant United States Attorney Charles Lewis and to honor his more than four decades of federal service.

In 1973, Charlie began his career as a law clerk to the Honorable Reynaldo Garza in Brownsville, Texas. After completing his clerkship, he joined the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas.

Throughout his career, Charlie distinguished himself as a tough and ethical prosecutor who passionately represented the United States in federal court.

Charlie's career included positions as Assistant Director of the Attorney General's Advocacy Institute in charge of training federal prosecutors in criminal prosecutions; Coordinator of the Presidential Drug Taskforce for the states of Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi; Coordinator of the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) Houston division; Resident Legal Advisor to the U.S. Embassy in Bucharest, Romania; and Prosecutor Representative for the anti-terrorism advisory committee in Brownsville, Texas.

Charlie's dedication to the prosecution of organized crime and drug trafficking resulted in seizures of tens of millions of dollars of currency and property and the convictions of many large-scale narcotics traffickers and corrupt public officials.

Many of Charlie's cases included investigations in multiple countries across numerous federal investigative agencies, and took years to develop and prosecute. Charlie was particularly good at explaining complex cases to federal juries and applying the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act.

Charlie is particularly proud of the three years he spent in Bucharest, Romania where he helped reform the Romanian legal system and served as the U.S. representative to the Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (now known as the Southeast European Law Enforcement Center) which provides support to member states to combat transnational organized crime and corruption.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for the opportunity to honor Charles Lewis and his more than four decades of public service to the United States. I join my colleagues in Congress in wishing him and Mary, his wife of more than 30 years, the best.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF JEFFREY WILSON ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Jeffrey Wilson of Perrysburg, Ohio has been offered an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Jeffrey's offer of appointment poises him to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2019. Attending one of our nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education, while placing demands on those who undertake one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Jeffrey brings an enormous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2019. While attending Lake Local High School in Millbury, Ohio, Jeffrey was a member of the National Honor Society and received hockey and golf academic awards. In addition, he received his Eagle Scout award through the Boy Scouts of America.

Throughout high school, Jeffrey was a member of his school's hockey, golf and baseball teams, earning varsity letters in each. I am confident that Jeffrey will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Air Force Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Jeffrey Wilson on the offer of his appointment to the United States Air Force Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available. I am positive that Jeffrey will excel during his career at the Air Force Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to the Nation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE POLICE
TRAINING AND INDEPENDENT
REVIEW ACT OF 2015

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of The Police Training and Independent Review Act, which I introduced earlier today with colleague LACY CLAY of Missouri.

If enacted, the Police Training and Independent Review Act would help ensure the independent investigation and prosecution of law enforcement officers in cases involving their use of deadly force. It would also provide sensitivity training for law enforcement officers.

America received a wakeup call last year in Ferguson, Missouri. It received another in Staten Island, New York.

It received yet another in Cleveland, Ohio, and then North Charleston, South Carolina, and more recently in Baltimore.

Our nation faces sobering questions about the basic fairness of our criminal justice system. And we face sobering questions about race. These questions simply cannot be ignored.

For too many, for too long, justice has seemed too lacking.

Precisely how long, and for how many—these are numbers we ought to know, and it is shameful that we do not. The fact that police departments are not required to report data about when, where and against whom they use deadly force is absurd. Even FBI Director James Comey has said it is, "ridiculous that [he] can't tell you how many people were shot by the police last week, last month, last year."

Last year, and again earlier this year, I introduced the National Statistics on Deadly Force Transparency Act to address this. The legislation would give both lawmakers and the public the numbers we need to measure the problem, so we can figure out how best to address it.

However, I rise today to talk about another equally important step we can take, right now, that does not require us to wait for more data. We can remove the looming cloud of doubt that hangs over too many instances in which law enforcement officers use deadly force against unarmed individuals.

We can stop asking local prosecutors to investigate the same law enforcement officers with whom they work so closely, and whose relationships they rely upon to perform their daily responsibilities.

This is an obvious conflict of interest, and if we are serious about restoring a sense of fairness and justice, we must remove this conflict immediately.

To be sure, the vast majority of prosecutors and law enforcement officers are well meaning, dedicated public servants, and we depend upon them to keep us safe from criminals. And they have dangerous jobs, as we have seen all too frequently in recent months.

But the fact remains that some police departments don't vet their patrolmen well enough. Some allow wealthy supporters to be reserve officers where judgment is lacking and some don't provide all appropriate training. There are also some officers who go beyond the law in a callous disregard for due process.

While we have seen charges against officers in North Charleston and in Baltimore, the question remains: would they have been prosecuted if we didn't have video of the events in question?

According to a recent Washington Post investigation, there have been, "thousands of fatal shootings at the hands of police since 2005, [and] only 54 officers have been charged. Most were cleared or acquitted in the cases that have been resolved."

I can't stand here today and tell you whether each of these prosecutors was biased. But what I can tell you is that there is a perception of unfairness in certain kinds of cases, and that perception is poisoning the public trust.

But we can fix this problem.

The Police Training and Independent Review Act would give states a reason to do what they should already be doing: require the use of independent prosecutors when there is an obvious conflict of interest. If states refuse to use independent prosecutors for cases against law enforcement officers involving their use of deadly force, they lose federal funding,

which can make up a significant portion of their budgets.

I urge my colleagues to help pass this legislation quickly, and help restore some much needed faith in our criminal justice system.

I want to thank my colleague LACY CLAY for his partnership on this bill. He is a tireless advocate on these issues, and I am honored to work with him.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 14, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 15

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Closed business meeting to continue to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2016.

SR-222

MAY 19

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization, focusing on air traffic control modernization and reform.

SR-253

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 562, to promote exploration for geothermal resources, S. 822, to expand geothermal production, S. 1026, to amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to repeal a provision prohibiting Federal agencies from procuring alternative fuels, S. 1057, to promote geothermal energy, S. 1058, to promote research, development, and demonstration of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies, S. 1103, to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving Clark Canyon Dam, S. 1104, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving the Gibson Dam, S. 1199, to authorize Federal agencies to provide alternative fuel to Federal employees on a reimbursable basis, S. 1215, to amend the Methane Hydrate Research and Development Act of 2000 to provide for

the development of methane hydrate as a commercially viable source of energy, S. 1222, to amend the Federal Power Act to provide for reports relating to electric capacity resources of transmission organizations and the amendment of certain tariffs to address the procurement of electric capacity resources, S. 1224, to reconcile differing Federal approaches to condensate, S. 1226, to amend the Mineral Leasing Act and the Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands to promote a greater domestic helium supply, to establish a Federal helium leasing program for public land, and to secure a helium supply for national defense and Federal researchers, S. 1236, to amend the Federal Power Act to modify certain requirements relating to trial-type hearings with respect to certain license applications before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, S. 1264, to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to establish a renewable electricity standard, S. 1270, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to reauthorize hydroelectric production incentives and hydroelectric efficiency improvement incentives, S. 1271, to require the Secretary of the Interior to issue regulations to prevent or minimize the venting and flaring of gas in oil and gas production operations in the United States, S. 1272, to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on the effects of forward capacity auctions and other capacity mechanisms, S. 1276, to amend the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006 to increase energy exploration and production on the outer Continental Shelf in the Gulf of Mexico, S. 1278, to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to provide for the conduct of certain lease sales in the Alaska outer Continental Shelf region, to make certain modifications to the North Slope Science Initiative, S. 1279, to provide for revenue sharing of qualified revenues from leases in the South Atlantic planning area, S. 1280, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish an annual production incentive fee with respect to Federal onshore and offshore land that is subject to a lease for production of oil or natural gas under which production is not occurring, S. 1282, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to require the Secretary of Energy to consider the objective of improving the conversion, use, and storage of carbon dioxide produced from fossil fuels in carrying out research and development programs under that Act, S. 1283, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to repeal certain programs, to establish a coal technology program, S. 1285, to authorize the Secretary of Energy to enter into contracts to provide certain price stabilization support relating to electric generation units that use coal-based generation technology, S. 1294, to require the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of Agriculture to collaborate in promoting the development of efficient, economical, and environmentally sustainable thermally led wood energy systems, and S. 1304, to require the Secretary of Energy to establish a pilot competitive grant program for the development of a skilled energy workforce.

SD-366

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Subcommittee on Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife

To hold hearings to examine S. 1140, to require the Secretary of the Army and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to propose a regulation revising the definition of the term "waters of the United States".

SD-406

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine how to safely reduce reliance on foster care group homes.

SD-215

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, focusing on examining EEOC's enforcement and litigation programs.

SD-430

10:30 a.m.

Committee on the Budget

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Congressional Budget Office.

SD-608

2 p.m.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine proposed environmental regulation's impacts on America's small businesses.

SR-428A

2:30 p.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism

To hold hearings to examine body cameras, focusing on whether technology can increase protection for law enforcement officers and the public.

SD-226

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

2:45 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Mileydi Guilarte, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Alternate Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank, Jennifer Ann Haverkamp, of Indiana, to be Assistant Secretary for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, and Brian James Egan, of Maryland, to be Legal Adviser, both of the Department of State, Marcia Denise Occomy, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Director of the African Development Bank for a term of five years, and Sunil Sabharwal, of California, to be United States Alternate Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund for a term of two years.

SD-419

MAY 20

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Subcommittee on Superfund, Waste Management, and Regulatory Oversight

To hold an oversight hearing to examine scientific advisory panels and processes at the Environmental Protection Agency, including S. 543, to amend the Environmental Research, Development, and Demonstration Authorization Act of 1978 to provide for Scientific Advisory Board member qualifications, public participation.

SD-406

10 a.m.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine reauthorizing the Higher Education Act, focusing on exploring institutional risk-sharing.

SD-430

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management

To hold hearings to examine 21st century ideas for the 20th century Federal civil service.

SD-342

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of multiple veterans service organizations.

SH-216

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SR-253

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine addressing the needs of Native communities through Indian Water Rights Settlements.

SD-628

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine solutions to the hospital observation stay crisis.

SD-562

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard

To hold hearings to examine improvements and innovations in fishery management and data collection.

SR-253

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on the Constitution

To hold hearings to examine taking sexual assault seriously, focusing on the rape kit backlog and human rights.

SD-226

MAY 21

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine understanding America's long-term fiscal picture.

SD-342

10 a.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Business meeting to consider pending legislation, and the nomination of Jeffrey Michael Prieto, of California, to be General Counsel of the Department of Agriculture.

SR-328A

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Business meeting to markup an original bill entitled, "The Financial Regulatory Improvement Act of 2015".

SD-538

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining

To hold hearings to examine S. 160, and H.R. 373, to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to expedite access to certain Federal land under the administrative jurisdiction of each Secretary for good Samaritan search-and-recovery missions, S. 365, to improve rangeland conditions and restore grazing levels within the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, Utah, S. 472, to promote conservation, improve public land, and provide for sensible development in Douglas County, Nevada, S. 583, to establish certain wilderness areas in central Idaho and to authorize various land conveyances involving National Forest System land and Bureau of Land Management land in central Idaho, S. 814, to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in the State of Oregon to the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians, S. 815, to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in the State of Oregon to the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians, and S. 1240, to designate the Cerro del Yuta and Rio San Antonio Wilderness Areas in the State of New Mexico.

SD-366

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

JUNE 4

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 454, to amend the Department of Energy High-End Computing Revitalization Act of 2004 to improve the high-end computing research and development program of the Department of Energy, S. 784, to direct the Secretary of Energy

to establish microlabs to improve regional engagement with national laboratories, S. 1033, to amend the Department of Energy Organization Act to replace the current requirement for a biennial energy policy plan with a Quadrennial Energy Review, S. 1054, to improve the productivity and energy efficiency of the manufacturing sector by directing the Secretary of Energy, in coordination with the National Academies and other appropriate Federal agencies, to develop a national smart manufacturing plan and to provide assistance to small- and medium-sized manufacturers in implementing smart manufacturing programs, S. 1068, to amend the Federal Power Act to protect the bulk-power system from cyber security threats, S. 1181, to expand the Advanced Technology Vehicle Manufacturing Program to include commercial trucks and United States flagged vessels, to return unspent funds and loan proceeds to the United States Treasury to reduce the national debt, S. 1187, to improve management of the National Laboratories, enhance technology commercialization, facilitate public-private partnerships, S. 1216, to amend the Natural Gas Act to modify a provision relating to civil penalties, S. 1218, to establish an interagency coordination committee or subcommittee with the leadership of the Department of Energy and the Department of the Interior, focused on the nexus between energy and water production, use, and efficiency, S. 1221, to amend the Federal Power Act to require periodic reports on electricity reliability and reliability impact statements for rules affecting the reliable operation of the bulk-power system, S. 1223, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to improve the loan guarantee program for innovative technologies, S. 1229, to require the Secretary of Energy to submit a plan to implement recommendations to improve interactions between the Department of Energy and National Laboratories, S. 1230, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program under which the Director of the Bureau of Land Management shall enter into memoranda of understanding with States providing for State oversight of oil and gas productions activities, and S. 1241, to provide for the modernization, security, and resiliency of the electric grid, to require the Secretary of Energy to carry out programs for research, development, demonstration, and information-sharing for cybersecurity for the energy sector.

SD-366